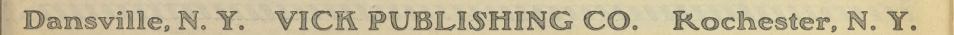
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February

1904

VICKS FAMILY MASAZINE



Hanson Still SHILLER

We will send to every subscriber or reader of

VICK'S FAMILY MAGAZINE

a full-sized ONE DOLLAR package of VITÆ-ORE, by mail, POSTPAID, sufficient for one month's treatment, to be paid for within one month's time after receipt, if the receiver can truthfully say that its use has done him or her more good than all the drugs and doses of quacks or good doctors or patent medicines he or she has ever used. Read this over again carefully and understand that we ask our pay only when it has done you good, and not before. We take all the risk; you have nothing to lose. If it does not benefit you, you pay us nothing. VITÆ-ORE is a natural, hard, adamantine, rock-like substance—mineral—ORE—mined from the ground like gold and silver and requires about twenty years for oxidization. It contains FREE IRON, FREE SULPHUR AND MAGNESIUM, and one package will equal in medical strength and curative value 800 gallons of the most powerful, efficacious mineral water drunk fresh at the springs. It is a geological discovery, to which there is nothing added or taken from. It is the marvel of the century for curing such diseases as Rheumatism, Bright's Disease, Dropsy, Blood Poisoning, Trouble, Catarrh and Throat Affections, Liver, Kidney and Bladder Ailments, Stomach and Female Disorders, LaGrippe and Malarial Fever, Nervous Prostration and General Debility, as thousands testify, and as no one, answering this writing for a package, will deny after using. VITÆ-ORE will do the same for you as it has done for hundreds of other readers of this paper who have accepted this offer and MADE NATURE THEIR DOCTOR, if you will give it a trial, which none should he sitate to do on this liberal offer. SEND FOR A \$1.00 PACKAGE AT OUR RISK. You have nothing to lose if the medicine does not benefit you. WE WANT NO ONE'S MONEY WHOM VITÆ-ORE DOES NOT BENEFIT. Can anything be more fair? One package is usually sufficient to cure ordinary cases; two or three for chronic, obstinate cases. Investigation will bear out our statement that we MEAN JUST WHAT WE SAY in this announcement and will do just as we agree. Write TO-DAY for a package at our risk and expense, giving your age and ailments, so that we may give you special directions for treatment, if same be necessary, and mention this paper, so we may know that you are entitled to this liberal offer

"OUT OF THE JAWS OF DEATH"

Cured In One Month's Time a Serious Kidney and Rheumatic Trouble.

Was Broken Down, Disheartened and Almost Helpless.

Rend what Mr. M. V. Estes, of No. 8 Trinity Street, Atlanta Ga., who answered our advertisement and received a package of Vitæore on trial, says of the medicine:

ATLANTA, GA.—When I look back at my condition ond suffering during recent years, and think of the herbs, roots, barks, tinctures, powders and liniments I have taken and rubbed with, all to no purpose, and that I was cured at last in one month with Vira-Ore, I stand dazed and amazed at the result. Indeed, I feel like exclaiming with Mr. Richardson (a correspondent of the New York Herald), on closing an account of his escape from a Confederate prison during the late war between the States, "Out of the Jaws of Death, Out of the Mouth of Hell!"

on closing an account of his escape from a Confederate prison during the late war between the States, "Out of the New York Herald), Out of the Mouth of Hell!"

Thirty years ago I contracted a disease of the Kidneys and commenced passing gravel from them, the pain often throwing me into spasms. Those only who have passed through this ordeal can give an idea of the suffering connected with it. These spells continued at irregular but frequent intervals, down to a month ago. During all this time my urine was highly colored, sometimes profuse and sometimes scant, but at all times charged with a yellowish, albuminous brick-dust deposit.

About three years ago I was attacked with Rheumatism in my right hip Joint, knees and the muscles all over my body. Physicians told me I had Diabetes and marked symptons of Brights Disease and commenced to dope me with mercury, soda, lithia, salicylic acid, potash, etc., all of which were constantly constipating me, and nearly everything I ate disagreed with me. You can well imagine my condition and state of mind. I was broken down, disheartened and helpless.

By chance I had placed in my hand a Chicago paper containing an advertisement of Vitre-Ore, and, like a drowning man, I caught at it, sent for it, and it has proved to be the "Oar" that enabled me to paddle my frail barque into the haven of Health. I used the ore in hot water, and it commenced to benefit me from the first dose. In four days I saw a marked change for the better, and so wrote you. My urine became cleared up and natural in color. In six days the brick-dust deposit was gone. My bowels became regular. I could eat wnat I wanted, and what I did eat did not hurt me and was perfectly digested. I slept soundly at night without those terrible hallucinations that had haunted my slumbers so long; but, best of all, the pain was leaving my suffering limbs. I could walk without crutch or stick.

Now, after taking a dollar package of Vitæ-Ore, I say I am better in health than I have been in hirty years. All this wonderful chang

RE-AFFIRMED ONE YEAR LATER.

ATLANTA, GA.—My faithin Vita-Ore grows stronger every day. I suffered with Kidney trouble for years and never got any relief until I used Vita-Ore, that did the work, and I am still well. Can get insurance on my life in any eompany that accepts men of my age.

M. V. ENTES.

You Are to Be the Judge! You Are to Be the One

to say whether it is or isn't;

whether you will or you won't; whether we are RIGHT or wrong. We leave it TO YOU entirely, for YOU to decide. The only evidence we want to submit is a dol=

lar package of VITÆ-ORE, which package we want you to USE, and at our risk.

ALL we ask is a FAIR VERDICT. We say, if you are sick, that VITÆ-ORE WILL CURE YOU. We say that ONE PACKAGE will PROVE to you that it is the remedy for your case and condition. If it does not, YOU TO BE THE JUDGE, we want nothing from you.

Permanent Cures

In making the claim a quarter of a century ago that Vitæ-Ore is the best thing in, on

or out of the earth for sick, ailing or suffering people, we made it unreservedly and unqualifiedly, without any stipulation or "knowing from our experience and from the experience of the few who had already used it at that early date, that its virtues and curative properties would fully substantiate this claim; that it was the best, not only because it gave relief from pain and the effects of disease, but that it cured the disease, and cured it effectually and permanently, hence the reason for the lines we have so often used in our advertisements and literature: "Get cured and stay cured," and "Not only immediate relief, but a permanent cure." Too many preparations are put on the market and advertised to give relief, too few to cure.

The test of a medicine is not so much in the experience and immediate testimony from the use of one package or bottle, but in the experience of people written months or years after they have used that one package or bottle, and who testify that it cured them at that time, and that they have never had a recurrence of the malady. How many of the testimonials you see

published in the papers of the land are such testimonials, how many who testify that they were and are permanently cured? Vitee-Ore has thousands upon thousands of such experiences to its credit. It has has been before the public for a quarter of a century. It cured numerous people right after its first introduc-tion, and they have remained cured and are eured today. It is curing people by the thousands today of all manner of diseses, who will still be cured at a date a quarter of a century hence. We have repeatedly received letters from people who wrote us testimonial letters years ago, now saying that they have had absolutely



VITÆ-ORE.

no return of the trouble or troubles.

Vitæ-Ore strikes the disease at its root, entirely eradicates every vestige or trace, and the patient is cured to stay cured. Its cures are permanent, and for this reason it itself is a permanent remedy, one that has come to stay, that will grow in popularity and sell more rapidly from year to year, always curing with a permanent cure, always satisfying, always selling.

This offer will challenge the attention and consideration, and afterward the gratitude of every living person who desires better health or who suffers pains, ills and diseases which have defied the medical world and grown worse with age. We care not for your skepticism, but ask only your investigation, and at our expense, regardless of what ills you have, by sending to us for a package. ADDRESS

THEO. NOEL CO., VICK'S DEPT., CHICAGO, ILL.

Vol. XXVII. No. 12.

VICK PUBLISHING COMPANY

February, 1904

Notes On a Few of the 1904 Novelties

C AT da ea

ATALOGUES will be arriving now in abundance, or may be had for the asking, and each one of them contains some specialty or novelty which we would like to try. Some of these have been under strict surveillance

in the nursery trial grounds or greenhouses of our leading dealers for years, in order to test both as to merit and uses, and to work up sufficient stock to enable them to offer the same to the public, buyers who are always on the alert for something new.

Among the many and various novelties, there are some which will appeal to all classes. The man of abundant means will be pleased with the new Golden Pandanus Sanderi, the new African Asparagus Myriocladus, the new Draceana Kewensis, or the new variegated Selaginella Watsoni. The man or woman with limited purse will also find an array from which to

choose. New China Asters are again in abundance. The Celosia Thompsoni magnifica is a splendid thing, one which is easily grown and sure to be admired by all. The French Collerette Dahlias have peculiar short rows of center petals entirely different from the outside row; some of them being white, gives the flowers the appearance of having a frill or collar.

The new silver variegated-leaved Nasturtium, Queen of Tom Thumbs, is an exceedingly pretty thing, which only those who have seen can thoroughly appreciate. It forms a globular, compact bush with very distinct foliage variegated with white and bearing rich crimson flowers.

The Shasta Daisy is also in evidence again this spring, and much pleasure is in store for those who try to raise it from seed. The Calliopsis is always in favor as a garden ornament, and for furnishing cut flowers it cannot be surpassed. An almost new and distinct race is now furnished us by Calliopsis hybrida superba, a grand acquisition containing a very large variety of color.

The Twentieth Century Dahlias cannot be surpassed. Then there is the beautiful Cornflower Aster, which is now enjoying a welldeserved popularity. A beautiful, selected race of Shirley Poppies in both tall and semitall growing forms needs no praise from me, their merits are well known. Suffice it to say that some enthusiastic lover of these pretty gems has been energetically engaged in selecting and has given us the results of his There have also been more colors added to the Iceland Poppies. Hitherto we have had only white, yellow and orange; now chamois and salmon rose are added, and much interest will be felt in raising these varieties from seed, in order to procure other colors.

The new Tritoma Express can be raised from seed and flower the first season. The

double fringed Zinnias are far more beautiful than the old-time stiff, formal ones, and they ought to be well known. The petals of these flowers are beautifully cleft or cut, which adds much to their attractiveness.

Among the hardy plants, several very delightfulnovelties of tried merit can be very strongly recommended. The Japanese Baneberry (Actea Japonica) is a delightful fall-blooming plant, coming along just as the Japanese Anemones are nearly past their best. It produces large, long, cylinder-like clusters of creamy white flowers on stems two to three feet high. It is a plant which is easy to grow and always attractive.

Then there is a very beautiful double, yellow-flowered Alyssum quite unique and useful both as a garden ornament and as a cut flower. The yellow-flowered Alyssums are always attractive in spring, and this is no exception, being but a double form of Alyssum

CRIMSON FOUNTAIN GRASS.

Saxataile compactum. It is perfectly hardy. A lovely companion to this would be the double, white-flowering Arabis Alpina fl. pl. offered as a novelty two years ago and worthy of a place in any garden.

The everblooming pinks, harbingers of a race of perpetual blooming pinks that will bloom from June till severe frosts cut them off, are now to be had in several, nice, distinct colors. The monstrous flowered, peach-leaved Campanula Moerheime must be seen to be really appreciated. It is quite easy to grow and its large, double, pure white flowers are marvels.

The Iris pumila hybrida, the result of crossing Iris Germanica with the dwarf pumila type, is very good and easily managed. The flowing period of these Irises is extremely early and one result of the cross is the production of the large flowers of the Germanica type on the dwarf plants of the pumila. Five colors of these are now offered. Another section of Alpine Iris which comes to us very highly recommended is to be had in six different varieties. These are the products

of an Iris fancier who has been hybridizing Iris of various types for over twenty years and has produced endless types and forms, some of which are now finding their way to our gardens from over the seas.

Other good hardy plants are Pentstemon grandiflorus, a very large flowering form from the Rocky Mountains, and a very beautiful new shrub Retinospora Sanderi from Thibet, of which I may write later, also the beautiful Stokesia cyanea.

Erythrina christa galli compacta (see illustration page two) although not hardy, is one of the best and most distinct flowering plants offered for a long period. It grows only about half the height of the old variety and is more floriferous, being freely branched and each branch terminating in a large cluster of brilliant, coral-red flowers, both showy, lasting, and attractive. When frosts come it maybe lifted and stored in sand in a cellar free from frost; each year will see it increase in size and beauty.

The Crimson Fountain Grass is so called on account of the graceful, drooping habit of the beautiful dark red, bronzy foliage and its fainter crimson, over arching plumes which grow from six inches to a foot in length. It is a very tall, vigorous grass, growing three to four feet high, and is really one of the finest of recent introductions either for planting singly or for massing.

A plant which will appear to all lovers of window or house plants, is the Dwarf Asparagus (see illustration, page three) a beautiful, new, compact-growing variety of Asparagus plumosus nanus, not exceeding six inches high when fully grown. These plants adapt themselves very readily to house culture, but this particular variety is especially commendable on account of its neat, graceful, compact-growing habit.

H. Greensmith.

For the illustrations to tols article we are indebted to H. A. Dreer, Inc. Philadelphia.

Flowers for Profit

(Winner of the first prize in our late contest.)

O long as there are birthdays, christenings, graduations, weddings, receptions, dinners, and other festive affairs, as well as the sad days of sickness and death-so long will there be a daily demand for flowers

To meet this, judicious selection of varieties as to blooming periods will be necessary. Then too we must grow such flowers as are of good substance, (lasting

well as cut flowers), long stemmed, pleasing foliage, and pure in color tone.

As this paper treats solely of flowers for profit we shall talk of such varieties only; we shall also limit the list to those which may be successfully grown by the amateur, out of doors. The greenhouse will come later on, after he has become better acquainted with the business of growing and selling the commoner

In our personal experience we found the following amply sufficient for this initiatory work:

Arctotis Grandis; Aster-Comet, Branching, Early Snowdrift, Lavender Gem, Daybreak; Candytuft; Calliopsis; Carnation-Marguerite; Centaurea—(Marguerite) Cosmos; Daisy-Shasta;

Dianthus; Ferns-Common kinds and Asparagus, Nanus and Sprengeri, Gypsophila; Mignonette; Nasturtium; Pansy; Salvia; Sunflower-Cut and come again; Sweet Peas; Wall Flower.

Flowering shrubs and perennials must of course furnish our first blooms, in this out door gardening. Of these the more common kinds are Almond, Deutzia, Spiraea of

various kinds, Philadelphus and Syringa in as many varieties as we can afford; Tamarix, Peonies, Lilies, Violets and Roses.

In making out your list remember that the colors most sought are yellow, pink, red, lavender, blue, and white; there should be no striped, specked or mottled effects. Your customers will want red roses, white sweet peas, pink asters, yellow chrysanthemums, etc. So plan to have plenty of few colors, rather than a few of many

Roses.—Varieties of roses to grow must ever be a question of latitude; we of the North must confine ourselves principally to the Hardy Perpetuals; of these, we should choose Margaret Dickson and Mme. Plantier for white; Clio, Mrs. John Laing and Mrs. H. Sharman Crawford, Paul Neyron, in pink; General Jacqueminot, Ulrich Brunner, Alfred Colomb, and American Beauty, M. P. Wilder in reds; Celine Forestier, Fuerst Bismarck and Gloire de Dijon in yellow; the

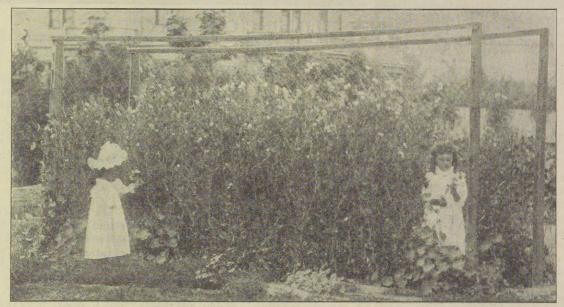
list of hardy yellow roses is extremely limited the Persian yellow being the only strictly hardy one we have; this however is of little value as a cut flower. The varieties listed are moderately hardy, with protection.

Farther south the Teas and Everblooming kinds may be grown successfully; there are so many fine ones it is hard to make a choice, so we shall leave each one to select for himself.

To one who has never grown flowers in a commercial way, the profit which may be realized from a very small piece of ground, even though planted to the commoner sorts of perennials and annuals is very surprising. The demand for this class of flowers is another matter of surprise.

For years we grew flowers for pleasure only, but on moving to a new neighborhood we suddenly had "greatness thrust upon us" in the shape of a floral trade. number of flowering shrubs and perennials

were already bursting into bloom and there was a quarter acre of rose bushes; to these were added our usual planting of annuals. The lilacs were only half opened when our first customer appeared, and from that day until Mr. Frost caused our retirement from business, there was never a time when we could not find something to sell. Being very busy with other affairs that year no especial care was taken to build up



"Sweet peas divided their sweetness between the bumble-bees and babies."

trade; not even a sign was displayed; if some one called and wanted a bouquet we were never too busy to stop work and get it for him, and we always tried to please, both in quality and quantity. June was our

liable to get. busy month, the roses bloomed by thousands and

cents each. In marketing a layer of fresh grass was them placed in the bottom of a large, flat basket, and light ly sprinkled; the bunches of peas were then put in, standing them as closely as possible without crushing the blossoms; a heavy paper was tied closely over the top of basket, and delivery made

by street car.

beauty of the blooms; each

color was kept by itself and

loosely tied in bunches of one

hundred, which sold for five

As this is a case of the more you pick the more the vines will produce, a crop may be gathered every alternate day. Buy the very best seed to be had, from some reliable seedsman; an ounce of each separate color will give blooms enough to fill almost any order you are

Keep to varieties which are known as "self colored," they will shade up beautifully when massed. In our home bouquets we always liked to combine Gypsophila and Ferns with the Sweet Peas. Try this, using only the soft pink, dainty lavender, or pure white peas, and

needed daily cutting; these were sold at from three to ten cents per dozen. Quantities were give away and

bushels of petals were dried to make dose pillows. Asters were sold at ten cents per dozen and netted a snug sum. Large bouquets of mixed flowers sold at five and

The crowning glory of the season was the Sweet Peas. These divided their sweetness between the

bumblebees and babies (who sometimes "stinged themselves on the big buzz flies,") and filled my

pocketbook in an astonishing way. Their season of

bloom lasted from July 1, until November, several

markets in our city. In picking, we aimed to cut as

long stems as possible, even cutting some of the vine,

so as to have some of their own foliage to enhance the

The most of the Sweet Peas were sold at large floral

bouquets being picked after we had light snow falls.

ten cents each.

note the arry gracefulness of your "posy."

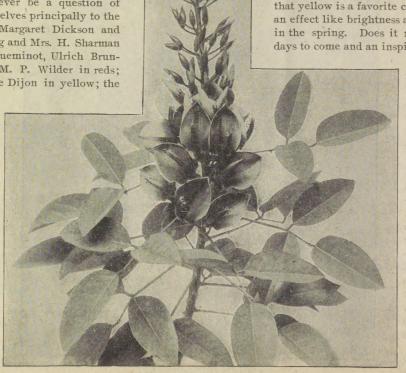
Particular attention is called to our trellis which consists of posts of 2x4 scantling, a narrow board at top and bottom and netting made of a five cent ball of gardener's bunching twine. We find the vines do much better on this, than on wire netting or brush.

Coreopsis Lanceolata.

The more I see of this pretty flower, the more I like it. I confess that yellow is a favorite color in flowers with me; it always produces an effect like brightness and light. Take the dandelion in full flower in the spring. Does it not seem like a true harbinger of the pleasant days to come and an inspirer of cheerfulness?

Coreopsis lanceolata is a perennial, and once established the clumps will increase in size and beauty of bloom each year. The flowers are a bright, golden yellow, two inches or more in diameter, and are borne on long, leafless, slender stems. As the wind blows over a bed of them, they wave in graceful fashion, dancing like Wordsworth's daffodils, and almost dazzling the eye-with their brightness.

This perennial coreopsis is perfectly hardy, will grow anywhere, in any soil, but it likes a light, rich, sandy one best. It can be grown from seed or propagated by division of the roots. If seed is sown early the plants will bloom the first season. It begins to blossom in June, flowering most freely the latter part of that month, but continuing in bloom all through summer and fall. The long, slender stems make blossoms particularly fine for cutting, and those who want flowers for table decoration should plant Coreopsis, for it combines gracefulness and brightness and has lasting qualities as well, often keeping fresh for a week, -Florence Beckwith.



ERYTHRINA CHRISTA GAILI COMPACTA.

VICES FAMILI MAGAZINE

Fragrant Plants for the Window Garden.

(Written for Vick's Family Magazine.)

N THE cold winter months when people are necessarily confined to the house more than usual, it is particularly important that the living room of the family should be bright, clean, and cheerful. No matter how plain or

small the dwelling, the living-room, whether it is kitchen, dining-room, sitting-room, or library, the

room in which the family gathers and where the busy housekeeper lives, should be on the sunny side of the house, and be bright with the most charming of all decorations, living plants. And if these plants have the additional charm of sweet perfume, they make the living-room a pleasure to more senses than one. Here, in our country home, we prize above all others the plants that make fragrant the air of our living-room. Perhaps some readers of Vick's may be interested in a short description of our window garden of odorous plants and flowers, as all of them are exceptionally easy to raise, and most of them clean and healthy, and little troubled by insect pests.

Prime favorite of all is Olea fragrans, a plant with smooth, dark green, shining foliage, and tiny, cream-colored flowers in little bunches along the branches, and in the intersections of the twigs. This Olea, or Fragrant Olive, grows in time to a large size, but as a window plant its growth is slow. We plant it out in partial shade in late spring, pot it up in early fall, give it a moderate supply of water, and place it in a sunny window, facing south, in the living-room, which is heated by a big air-tight wood stove, where the fire never goes out day nor night. Under these conditions the Olea thrives, and is never attacked by insects, and is always in bloom. The flowers are insig-

nificant in themselves, but their perfume is delicious, though never cloying, as is that of some bulbs and plants of strong odor.

Another great favorite is an old-fashioned plant called Daphne odora. This is a greenhouse shrub which blooms very freely and when very small. The foliage is a lighter green than that of the Olea, and a

well - shaped plant is very ornamental. flowers are The tubular, in showy clusters, and tinted a delicate pink in our variety, though there is another kind with white blossoms. This is a very charming window-plant, very free-blooming, and with a most delicious perfume, which blends well with that of the other fragrant plants in our window. I am sure any one who tries it will be delighted with it.

Then we have several varieties of sweet Geranium, such as the lemon-scented, the apple, and the favorite rose and nutmeg kinds A large plant of Aloysia citriodora is very useful also, for the lemonscent of its foliage. This plant is usually called Sweet or Lemon-scented Verbena, and this is very

proper, as it does really belong to the Verbena family.

In one hanging basket we have a thrifty plant of the common Musk, Mimulus moschatus, which is very easily raised from seed. The seed can be obtained from many seedsmen, and it should be sown in early summer and brought into the house in the fall. I have lately read that Wall-flowers may be bloomed in the house, by being potted and kept in a cold frame until late in the winter. I intend to try them, as the Wall-

ASPARAGUS PLUMOSUS NANA COMPACTA.

flower is a great favorite with me, and it is too cold here to leave them in the open all winter. Perhaps some readers of Vick's have had experience with them as house plants. Another window-garden plant for a hanging-basket that has flowers of a pleasant smell is Mahernia odorata. This is not as common as it should be. It is easily flowered is very ornamental, and the bright yellow blossoms are cheerful and lasting. Then we have Cyclamen and Freesias, and sometimes a few other bulbous plants, but we do not care for the odor of Hyacinths or Narcissi. That is, of course, a matter of taste. Each one can mingle the odors in his living pot-pourri to suit his own sense of smell. Pots of Mignonette are almost sure to suit the most fastidious, and Mignonette is a very accommodating plant, and easily bloomed in the house, from seed sown late

in summer.

Numerous other plants that have pleasant fragrance will occur to flower lovers who may like to follow our example and devote a window or a part of a greenhouse to them. For instance, there are the Calla, the beautiful Azaleas, and Easter Lilies, Each one will have his favorites. I only give the recipe for my own special living pot-pourri, as a suggestion for others equally delightful. Of course all our flowers do not bloom at once, but in this window-garden there are always enough plants in flower to impart a delicious fragrance to the air.

Danske Dandrilge.

Petunias.

(Written for Vick's Family Magazine.)

The first Petunias I ever saw grew from a packet of seeds that came from James Vick. We had bought seeds from him before, and with each order there had been one or more packets of seeds "extra." And each time it seemed to me that the extra packets were the choicest varieties. Mother always gave me the extras. I hesitated about accepting the petunias, the seeds were so small, so mother agreed that we would both claim them. She would plant the seeds and I must watch them carefully and keep all the weeds away from the delicate plants.

The plants grew so fast that they were

not hard to care for, and I remember that I was rather disappointed and thought the plants coarse, and the flowers not very pretty at first. It happened that the bed of Petunias was near the kitchen and the morning breezes bore the spicy fragrance of the flowers through an open window. While I was busy with the many little tasks that had

spicy fragrance of the flowers through an open window.

While I was busy with the many little tasks that had to be done over and over again, I would catch a whiff of sweet perfume, and I would lean from the window to get nearer the flowers, and so I grew to love them. After-

flowers, and so I grew to love them. Afterward I saw other varieties but none that I liked better than the one that made my morning tasks seem lighter in those days of my early childhood, and if I were choosing Petunias now I would head the list with Countess of Ellesmere.

I have often had double Petunias, and I learned that they were easily propagated from slips. I think I had them several years before I learned that they were really perennial plants, and with proper care would bloom for years.

A friend gave me a double white Petunia, saying as she did so, "This is an old plant but if you can keep it over winter it will give you a nice lot of slips next spring." (Continued on page 25)





TALKS ABOUT FLOWERS

By Benjamin B. Keech



Marguerite Carnations.



KNOW of some very beautiful and satisfactory flowers that do not get talked about one half so often as they deserve; and I am going to speak several good words for the Marguerite carnation, right here. The

plants are neat and compact; the blossoms are as beau-

tiful as those of some of our high-priced, aristocratic carnations—or at least they compare favorably with them. When once started, the Marguerite carnation blooms continuously; and with proper protection, will live in the open ground, during winter. The individual flowers are of good size, have the true carnation odor and possess a great many beautiful colors. However, the Marguerite carnation has one or two small faults-if faults they can be called—and although I hate to speak a disrespectful word regarding this beautiful flower, I am going to tell about them in the beginning, and have it over with. The Marguerite carnation is rather slow to get interested in its surroundings; and at the North is not a complete success the first year. It generally gets nicely loaded with buds just in time to be nipped by the first hard frost; and for this reason its owner is not apt to regard it with approval. However, at the South-I on't know the exact locality in which the happy line of distinction begins—the Marguerite carnation will bloom long and well, the first year. And at the North if one takes pains to sow the seeds early under glass, one may also enjoy the delicious flowers for several months before frost.

By "under glass" I mean a greenhouse or hot bed—preferably the former. I have never sowed carnations indoors, although I see no reason why the plants thus started should be unsuccessful, provided of course, that they are given proper management, under proper conditions. But as a rule, the carnation will get an earlier, better and more vigorous start by sowing as suggested. If you have no hot bed or greenhouse, but are friendly with a local florist or some one that possesses either or both of the desired conveniences, you can undoubtedly get your carnations and similar plants started at an earlier date, and under better conditions than by sowing them yourself.

At any rate, procure a packet or two of seeds, get them started as early as possible and give the plants a preferred place in your garden. The young carlations can be moved from their temporary home about the 10th of June, and with rich soil, good cultivation, water, mulch and attention, ought to reward one with many flowers before September. But if they do not, or if only one or two develop a blossom, previous to frost, a number of the most promising-looking ones can be potted, and after resting and shading for a few days, given a home in the greenhouse or window garden. They do not frequently disappoint in the latter place, and in the former are a complete success. Set the plants out of doors again in spring either in the plunged dishes or otherwise. If trimmed back somewhat, they will soon "pick up" and will bloom uninterruptedly throughout the summer.

If you do not care to bother with carnations indoors, during winter, build a neat, board frame round the bed in fall, and when the ground freezes, apply a mulch of manure, filling among the plants with dry leaves. Provide a rain-proof covering over the top—but do not completely exclude the air—and you will have made a snug winter home for a flower that deserves twice as much work expended upon it. The plants will generally be in good condition in spring, and will bloom continuously until frost. Sometimes they live through the winter without protection, but it is always best to attend to them in this respect.

Carnation blossoms are certainly among our most beautiful flowers. It is a pleasure to be able to gather them from one's own garden. They last very well in water, and are particularly pleasing with fern fronds.

A plot of the plants, either large or small, should be a feature of every up-to-date garden. They are really among our very best flowers and deserve more extensive cultivation. They like the full sun, but shade, at noon, is beneficial. They appear to advantage in front of vines on trellis or in front of plants that bear dark green foliage. Plenty of water is needed, especially during the hottest weather.

The Marguerite carnation has one small fault that I did not mention. Some of the plants will produce single blossoms. But a certain per cent of the flowers will be double and one can forgive the single ones. The real, genuine carnation may be given a place in

one's garden if one wishes. There are several classes of pinks that deserve extensive cultivition. Any florist's catalogue will give you more information regarding them than I have space for here. I have Dianthus pinks and hardy pinks more particularly in mind. These have proved to be entirely successful in my own garden; and I advise you all to give them a trial.

The Dianthus varieties blossom early the first year from seed, and will live during winter without protection. However, it is always best to protect them. Follow the same method advised for Marguerite carnations. There are double and single varieties of Dian-



Seasonable Suggestions.

At this season of the year, a well regulated plan^t ought to be getting over the case of sulks that it contracted when moved into the window garden in fall. With increasing length of days comes renewed activity of growth; and the majority of palms, geraniums, and so forth, should now receive extra attention. Give a growing and blossoming plant all the water it requires. Here is the rule: Saturate the soil thoroughly, while you are about it, then wait until dryness is again apparent

Moisture in the air is always desirable. Provide it by showering the plants and by keeping a dish of water on the stove or register. In the kitchen, the tea kettle will keep the air in proper condition. Have a special day to shower your plants, and to slick up the window garden. This will probably be the same day that you sweep. Put the plants in the sink and give them a thorough washing. The water should not be used directly from the faucet; warm it a little, first. Remove every speck of dust and when you think you have finished, apply some more water. In this way you will be thorough. Primroses and Rex begonias, however, should not be subjected to such vigorous treatment.

It has always been a theory of mine which I have proved by practice, that insect enemies can be kept from palms, etc. by beginning at the beginning and not allowing them to gain a foothold. Go over each plant once a week or as often as you find it necessary, and remove every scale and mealy bug, using a small, blunt instrument like a pen. Thus, if none are allowed to stay on a plant they cannot multiply and force you to invest in insecticides, syringes, etc. Of course, the above advice applies more particularly to a small number of plants. A dozen

(Continued on page twenty-four.)

Through Fields and Woodlands

By N. Hudson Moore

February.

"The white of the snow is enchanting;
Tell not of the ice-tree in words;
There is joy in the bells of the snow-crunching sleigh,
On the ruddy cheek and the laughter gay,
But I long for the song of the birds.

The nimble titmouse is cheery, The woodpecker's screech I have heard, The little gray sparrows from over the sea Chirp out a wee morsel of solace to me, But not as the song of a bird.

Is summer real and coming, With its waving green and its herds? For the greatest good the winter can bring Is the hope in me of returning spring And the joyous song of the birds.''

W. G. Barton.

The Story of "Ned."

With a snow-bound scene stretching away before one in every direction, with icicles pendant from every eave, with blinds clapping in a constant and uneasy wind, who can, huddled over a fire, believe that "summer is real and coming?" It is such weather, and delayed promises of the return of the birds which induce me to tell the story of "Ned," a mocking-bird that has braved the cold and storm of this more than usually severe winter, and survived.

He appeared first in the early summer in a garden where there were fruit trees and flowers in abundance, and took up his residence in one particular cherrytree loaded deep with fruit which was not gathered. He enjoyed the luscious cherries immensely, feeding full, and then rejoicing the neighborhood by pouring out an ecstasy of song. He was monarch of all he surveyed, not because he was alone in his kingdom, but because he was vigilant in keeping intruders out. His cherry tree hung full of tempting fruit, more than he could begin to eat himself, but no bird in the neighborhood made more than one attempt to feed thereon, for Ned pounced on any bird that ventured to come too near, and at last even the English sparrows desisted from their efforts to approach his preserves.

Beside his song, he had a clear brilliant whistle, and being of a friendly disposition he soon made, himself at home within the small compass of a city block, and made his daily round of visits with almost the same regularity as the postman. Not a day passed that was not enriched by his song, and late September still found him at home in his garden, with apparently no thought of migration in his mind. His good friends began to be uneasy at his prolonged presence, and feared that he too would stay and die, as another mocker had done the previous winter. In fact both these birds appeared in this vicinity, which is out of their range, in a way that causes people to believe they are escaped cage birds, poor things that do not know many of the great laws that govern their fellows, and so unmindful of the flight which takes their kind southward in winter, stay where they find themselves, and perish in the prolonged cold. But Ned is either made of sterner stuff, or his superior intelligence has helped him through, for he has known enough to take advantage of the assistance provided by kind friends, and by their help keep himself well fed. He never seemed very shy, even in summer, allowing one to approach quite near and listen to his song. The cold weather drove him nearer the houses, and he was observed to pick up such scraps as were near at hand.

This encouraged a bird-lover who had long enjoyed his song, to provide a little shelter for him, which was nailed against the house. She then went out of doors with some little plates and saucers which she showed him, telling him at the same time that they were his, and that the food she put in them was for him alone. He sat upon a tree, watching and listening, and she went into the house, and in plain sight from where he sat cut up and prepared some food, which she put upon

a little shelf attached to his shelter. He flew, as soon as the window was closed, to his dish and ate what wasprovided.

This was early in December. Every day since, he has gone for his food, sitting on a tree very near the window and watching the preparation. Since the severe cold set in the food has been heated, and he seems to enjoy his warm breakfast very much, for this is the first duty his friend attends to on rising. He shows that he is a bird of discrimination, since he eats with apparent relish much suet finely chopped. His Sunday dinner is roast beef with cranberry sauce. At first the uncooked cranberries were put out for him, but they were too cold and sour. Then cranberry sauce was tried, and he showed by eating it all that it met his fancy. He also eats cooked potato, and in fact, anything which is good enough for the table of his hostess is good enough for him.

He does not sleep in his shelter but in a cedar hedge, at the back of the garden, close beside a barn. The only thing he does which is not absolutely intelligent is this choice of sleeping quarters, for it is on the north instead of the south side of the barn.

He has his little amusements, also; since he cleared his garden of English sparrows they have kept well



MOCKING BIRD.

in the distance. Some chickadees, however like to come to eat some suet tied to the trees. He does not care for their society at all, and suffers them to remain but a short time before he hustles them out in a most unceremonious manner. He will come when he is called, and often when his best friend sits reading in her window will perch just outside on a nearby tree, and listen to her, as long as she will talk to him. Indeed he has almost human characteristics, he loves society, and he certainly tries by every means a bird has at his command, to show his appreciation of her kindness. His keen black eyes show almost affection as they look at her, for she stands beneath the tree where he perches, and talks as you would to a child.

If you ask her if it is not a great deal of trouble to take so much care about his food, she will tell you this has been the happiest winter of her life. He is her last thought at night and her first in the morning. When he does not get round on time there is no eral of worry till he does appear, and then when his neat gray figure comes in sight, all is well. He is a hand-some bird, well-plumaged and finely marked, and snow-storms have no horrors for him. Occasionally on those days when the thermometer has sought a point well below zero, (one day it was fourteen degrees below) he will put his head under his wing, to warm up a bit.

People go to see him, having heard of his pretty ways and wonderful power in resisting cold, and he is always approachable and willing to show off his little tricks.

I have told this story chiefly to show what may be done with a little patience, in taming wild birds. Of course there are not many birds with his intelligence, but any bird you feed and love will respond in a score of pretty ways. Chickadees are easy to coax near home, and little by little they can be brought nearer and nearer by means of suet, till they will come freely to your windowsill.

There is no interest so great in a cold and barren winter, as some of these little creatures to tend and help. Robins, red polls, nuthatches, woodpeckers, a flicker, beside the constant chickadees have all been reported this unusually severe winter, and nobody who has helped one to survive can help feeling well satisfied.

A February Sunset.

Beside the frozen marsh the sedges sigh,
While keen edged winds like sabers cut their way;
A waterfowl is floating there on high,
Seeking some far off home at close of day.

The ghostly hills are shrouded white in snow, Brown boughs, a-shiver nakedly, are numb; A wandering black-robed friar, limps a crow; To find on hardened clods, a stingy crumb.

Here weeds and brambles, thickly interlaced, Hang frail embroidery of hoary frost; Here tiny tracks of hares are lightly traced; A crying snowbird seeks the mate he lost.

A cottage rises in the fields of white,
Its smoke is curling tremulous and thin;
Its windows glow like jaspers through the night,
Rich with the warmth of blissful love within.

There like a dewdrop in a scarlet flower
A star is twinkling in the ruddy sky,
And sprinkling snow fields in a silver shower,
The new moon's horn of plenty hangs on high.

The sunset splendor makes the twilight glow
In purple and in orange clouds of fire,
As conquering Alexander long ago
Gave to the torch imperial towers of Tyre.

Walter Malone.

Send us Your Renewal at Once.

Last month we mailed bills to those in arrears and a large number of our subcsribees sent us their renewals and complimented us on their improved appearance of our Magazine. Still there are a great many who have not paid up and of such we ask, as a special favor to send us your renewal at once. Will you not do this? It is a small matter to you and means a great deal to us. We are working day and night to make our publication the best 50-cent Magazine in America and we believe you appreciate our efforts. We are willing to advance your subscription four years from date of expiration for only \$1,00. This is at one-half our regular rates, and is made for only a limited time. Will you not send us your renewal at once?

How do you like our Front Cover this month? Is it not an attractive winter scene? We have a limited number printed on our Special Creme Mat Board suitable for framing. They have no letters onthem and are works of art. We know you will be delighted with them. Price 25 cents each postpaid. If you will add six cents to your remittance when you send us your subscription or renewal, we will send you one postpaid. (Be sure and state whether you wish our January or Ferbuary Art Print, or for 10 cents additional we will send both. You should order at once or our supply may be exhausted as they are going fast.

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VICK'S FAMILY MAGAZINE

THE QUEERNESS OF SUSAN

A Prize Winning Story in Our Late Contest.

By Ruth Hays

"What's Susan going to do?"

"Oh, Susan's queer. She never put on a mite of mournin'. Said she didn't believe in it, unless for widders; an' not for them, neither, if they meant to get out of it quick's they could. Seemed kinder heathenish to me. I declare I'd most a mind to put on a black ribbon for the old deacon myself, rather'n nobody should."

The other woman smiled tolerantly. "Susan's been a good daughter," she said judicially, "and no doubt she mourns as much as some that show more.'

"Oh, Susan's good," agreed Mrs. Dunn. "Everybody knows that. He was dreadful cranky, too, sometimes, the deacon was. I couldn't a lived with him; but I never knew Susan to give him a sharp word."

"You didn't say what she's going to do," reminded the other presently. She was a "superior woman," and the tones of her voice showed it. Having married out of the village she had been long absent, and but just returned for a summer visit. Her old friends felt distinctly flattered by Mrs Gordon's notice.

Mrs. Dunn looked important. "You never could guess. It's about the cap-sheaf, even for Susan. She's gone an' adopted four children!"

'My land!" cried Mrs. Gordon, surprised into the vernacular. "Wouldn't one do her?"

"Seems 'twouldn't." Mrs. Dunn was enjoying the gossip hugely. "She said one'd be lonesome, an' besides, they hadn't ought to be separated."

Mrs. Gordon shook her head. "Heaven help her!" she said piously. "Four children! Whose children were they, Mary Dunn?"

"Remember that Tom Andrews who used to be such a little pickle when Miss Jones taught No. 7? No, I guess you don't. Must a been after you married. But you knew Joe-old beau of yours, wa'nt he? Tom was his brother. Grew up a likely fellow too; wa'nt no real harm in him, only mischief. He married Mary Jane Storrs, over Spencer way, as good a girl as ever was, an' they got along real well till Tom died-the summer there was so much typhoid

round, four or five years ago. Mary Jane had a hard time after that, but she kept up, an' did the best she could. She thought the world of her children, four of 'em there was-the baby was born just after Tom died. But she kinder give out all of a sudden last spring, an' died the same week the old deacon did. So Susan she just stepped in an' took the whole lot right home with her, an' there they've been ever since. Tom, he's the oldest, an' about ten; an' the baby she's four, or maybe five, now. Two boys an' two girls-first one an' then to'ther. They've picked up amazin' since Susan took 'em."

Mrs. Gordon drew a long breath. "Well," she said doubtfully, after a second, "I suppose she knows what she's about. She's got property enough, most likely, if that's all."

'Oh Susan's well off. There ain't a better farm in the county, an' she's managed it this dozen years. She's got a good man to look after things, but I can tell you, Susan's boss. An' capable-my land! she can do anything she sets her hand to; from embroidering a doily to building a hencoop. The folks that says a woman can't drive a nail, don't know Susan."

"She aint sending 'em to school though," went on Mrs. Dunn garrulously. "Anybody 'd think she would, if only to get rid of 'em; but she don't like the way things go on. You see we've got a real progressive school board on now, so they have kindergarten things, an' gymnastics, an' drawin' an' all the rest,

same's they do in Boston. But Susan wont have it; says it spoils the children, an' they aint good for nothin' but bein' amused, an' havin' things made easy for 'em. She declares they can't even read nor spell decent, an' don't have no work in 'em when they grow up. I dunno-they come up after my Julia Ann an' Reuben got through; but they don't know how to work the way we used to. The risin' generation don't seem to have much vim in 'em somehow. Now those sums we used to do in Mr. Rich's school-you know 'em. My Julia an' Reub have studied geom'try an' physics an' all that, but they can't do one of them sums to save 'em. I dunno what we're comin' to.'

"But what does Susan do?" queried Mrs. Gordon, politely recalling her old friend to the matter in hand. 'Surely they must learn-'

"Teaches' them herself," answered Mrs. Dunn promptly. "She's got Tom an' Mary studyin' Latin already. You know what a scholar Susan was, Johnny's begun to read, an' I don't know but Katie knows her letters. They study an' recite at reg'lar

It was the general verdict in the village, but why should Susan care? An ample income is a great help to independence of opinion, and in all these United States, there is no such free and independent citizen as a well-to-do spinster. So Susan looked after the farm, tended her flowers and her dairy and managed her household in her own fashion, keeping her course as calmly as the sun, while the children revolved about her contentedly, like attendant satellites. Old Dr. Hunter declared them the only young people in town who had a symmetrical education, and his Bob the only one of their contemporaries fit to hold a candle to them. Susan didn't even except Bob.

There had been a slight perturbation of the orbits when Tom and Mary both declined to go to college. It had been a dream of Susan's own youth of which the old deacon had made short work. But she had counted on it for the children, till Tom declared he had no headpiece, and would rather be a good carpenter than a poor minister. And Mary added that what was good enough for Auntie was good enough for her. Susan shrewdly suspected also good enough for Bob Hunter, who found his way out to the farm so often during his vacations. But John declared for Harvard and the law school, and little Katie's great ambition was to be a teacher, and by and by dean of some college, or even president, who could tell? So Susan was

Fourteen years slipped by, and Susan was fifty-four-

the very bloom of youth, her children insisted, when she talked of her years. Tom was a master carpenter with plenty of work, engaged to the dearest girl in the world, and about to begin building his own house on the corner of the farm nearest the town. Mary was Mrs. Robert Hunter, and the happiest of young matrons, and both John and Katie were on the eve of graduation. Then Susan had an inspiration.

"We'll go abroad this summer," she announced. "John and Katie and I. Not Tom, because his Elsie is more than all Europe; nor Mary, because her Bob is, if possible, a little more yet. But we three are still free and independent citizens, and we'll take a long vacation. Why shouldn't Tom marry at once and keep this house, while we are hunting the nightingale and listening to skylarks over the English downs? I want to see the Devonshire lanes, and the Cathedral towns, the Highlands of my ancestors, and the heather on the moors."

"And Clovelly street," prompted Katie ecstatically as she paused, "the Doone country, and perhaps even Switzerland and Rome. Auntie, it will be just heavenly."

So Tom brought his Elsie to the farm, and Susan and her two children sailed away, and began their pilgrimage. Now they were in Edinburgh among the haunts of Stevenson, now in the Highlands, and again wandering about the continent. The year slipped by so rapidly that the second summer found them still journeying; Tom's house was done, and those at home were growing impatient.

Then when the heather was again purple on the moors, they went down once more into Devonshire for a farewell glimpse. John was to establish himself in Boston before the winter, and Katie's position in G-Seminary was waiting for her. Once in awhile Susan thought a little apprehensively of the farm when all her nestlings had flown. They had gone out upon the moor together one glorious afternoon, and while John and Katie climbed higher, Susan sat down to rest awhile, with Billy, the landlady's eldest, as guard and companion; and all the peace and beauty of the scene was in her heart as she waited.

She sat there still when they came down towards the sunset, but a stranger was with her, a very old friend she said, as she introduced them. And presently as they all walked on together toward their lodgings, Katie noticed that Auntie's friend was perceptibly lame, and looked ill and worn. Billy had gone on

The Beacon Light. (A Prize Poem in Our Recent Contest.)

By L. Eugenie Eldridge.

Away in the distance shines the light, We are out on the stormy sea; But piercing the gloom and dark of night, The beacon shines right cheerily. And tells of port and harbor near.

Our freighted bark on life's broad sea, All laden well with precious store, Sails on, in dim uncertainty, Nor heeds the reef-rocks near the shore, Nor sights the billows' surge and swell, Nor hears the fog-bell's warning call, Nor dreams that shoals and quicksands dwell

Where eddying waters rise and fall.

All helpless sails this treasure ship, For see! the helm and chart are gone, When lo! it speeds from lip to lip "The beacon guides—the light cheers on."
On, thro' the midnight gloom of night, O'er life's wild billows tempest-tossed This constant, changeless beacon light Shall hold and save when all seems lost.

For 'tis the light of home that shines With steadfast promise sure and strong, Illumines hope, and softens lines That care has written, deep and long; That cheers our grief—dispels the dark, Our compass, chart and helm in one, That moors our fragile human bark In love's sweet haven—port of home.



hours, an' between times they learn to work. They've all got nice little gardens, an' Tom's always fussin' with tools. Says he's goin' to be a carpenter like his father was. Mary's real handy with her sewing an' housework. They've got Hannah Horne for help, same's they always had, an' they don't work too hard. I guess they play all they want to, an' have a real good time. They seem to set the world by Susan."

"Quite the happy family altogether," assented Mrs. Gordon, folding away her embroidery. "Susan's about my age, I remember. I wonder she never married.'

'Forty, last May,'' agreed Mrs. Dunn. "She's had chances. That last Methodist minister before this one, two years ago, he wanted to marry her, everybody knew. They said he made it a subject of prayer, though she wa'nt one of his flock. He was a widower, an' married Lois Josselyn when Susan wouldn't have him. An' Sam Barber an' Andrew Horton both tried it ten years ago, I'm pretty sure, though you can't get anything out of Susan."

"What became of that young Winthrop?" said Mrs. Gordon suddenly. He was paying Susan a good deal of attention at the time I married, and I used to think she liked him."

"Lord knows—I don't," laughed Mrs. Dunn comfortably. "He went off somewheres, an' Susan never wore no willows. She aint the kind to be disappointed. Never did seem to care about gettin' married, like the rest of us. She's queer, Susan is."

ahead sometime before, and Katie wondered.

She went into Susan's room as usual for a good night talk, and they spoke of all their happy wanderings, now so nearly over. "It's been almost too perfect," sighed Katie at last. "I want some hard work now, to keep the balance true.' But I shall be thankful for it all my days, Auntie. What memories for wintry weather!"

"Yes"-Susan answered slowly. "I am thinking of the home when all my birds are flown. My children have made me very happy. There is nothing I would have different, but I shall miss them sorely, though Tom and Mary are so near, and you and John will have vacations.

"Dear Auntie," said Katie fondly, "we owe everything in this world to you. How good you have been to us all! But now you are going to be lonely, I am afraid. I wish—," Susan smiled a little. "Katie," she said presently, "When I was your age, I had a lover. We quarreled and he went away. I was young and proud-no one should know that I cared. Then my mother's illness came and for five long years my hands and heart were full. I was glad then that I was free. I came to believe that it was best. When she died and father's rheumatism crippled him, I had

the farm to look after, and little time for dreams. I have not been unhappy, but I have never-forgotten. Today I met him. He has been a great traveller, wandering the world over all these years, till the accident that crippled him, and sent him here to rest. We are old people now; he isn't strong, nor very well off, I fear, but he has not forgotten, as I have not. And even now-Katie, even now he can give me the happiness that no one else in this world ever could. A

woman is never too old to love, or to be loved.''

Katie kissed her softly. "Dear Auntie, I am so glad," she whispered as she said good night.

Mrs. Gordon's visit fell late that year, and almost the first news Mrs. Dunn gave her was of Susan.

"She's got back—a week ago. Been abroad you know. An' this time she's beat the band-Susan's married."

Mrs. Gordon's eye glasses flew into her lap. "Susan-married?" she gasped. "Never in this world!"

"It's so," declared Mrs. Dunn. "Saw 'em myself at church, Sunday, an' she was as blooming-not a grey hair yet. She's Susan Winthrop now, if you please."

Mrs. Gordon gasped again. "Not that same young Winthrop?-Mary Dunn!"

"He's old enough now." Mrs. Dunn gave a grim chuckle. "Grey as a badger and bald besides. Lame too, an' from all I hear, poor as Job's turkey into the bargain,

Mrs. Gordon's face was a study. "You don't mean it!" she cried despairingly. "What in the world pos-

"Lord only knows." said Mary Dunn. "Susan's queer.

"They Shall Be Comforted."

(Written for Vick's Family Magazine.)

Beside the grave I stood today Where buried my heart's dearest lay, And as I saw the lonely years Before me stretch, fast fell my tears.

No form my blinded eyes could see, Yet softly spake a voice to me; "Blessed are they that mourn," it said, "For they-they shall be comforted."

Mabel Cornelia Matson.



BLOSSOMS BABIES

By Louise J. Strong

(Written For Vick's Family Magazine.)



OGETHER? Certainly. It's easy if the babies are trained as they should be. A great many women think they can have no flowers if they have babies. They are mistaken, and deprive themselves and the babies of much pleasure, and their homes and yards of much beauty.

"There wouldn't be a flower left in that bed if I brought my baby here for the day."

This was the answer of a friend when invited to bring her baby and work, and spend the day. I did not urge her; it might not have been pleasant for I should have protected my flowers.

Some mothers think it impossible to prevent roystering baby boys from destroying everything in reach, and practically give the place over to them; keeping things in-doors beyond their highest climbing ability, letting them make a pig-sty of the yard if they choose.

Our first boy was as riotous a little harum-scarum as the worst of them, and he never pulled a flower without leave, nor destroyed a plant. Flowers have always been a necessity with me, and the summer the boy was coming two years old, I had quite a large flower garden after one of James Vick's plans, with a great variety of flowers.

Baby, who was large and active, was a partner in the institution, and when mamma worked with hoe and rake making the beds, he worked too with an old, dull table knife, his own pro-He soon learned that the beds must not be walked on, and if he made a mis-step on one, would rub out the little foot-print, saying, "No, no."

He had a wee corner of his own, and when I planted seeds he planted also, four o'clocks and a few large seeds he could handle. When he was shown the fine seeds, and it was explained to him that they required careful handling, beyond his tiny fingers, he understood that he could not manage them and was perfectly satisfied.

According to his small capacity, he took as much pleasure in that garden as any of us. He was learning to talk, and being a jolly, fearless little fellow, he loved to make folk's laugh, and laugh with them; and we had much amusement from his efforts to repeat the names of the flowers. He would undertake the longest and hardest; his little tongue tripping and stumbling in great confusion, but he enjoyed it and was always ready to tell visitors the names of the flowers, expecting them to laugh.

There was a bed of eutoca, delicate blue and white flowers that he especially admired, and of course he wanted to know To him it sounded like "your toka," and instead the name. of making his usual effort to repeat, he exclaimed, "Eddie's

toka! Eddie's toka!" (His name was Eddie.) eH understood that bed of flowers was his, and from that on it was, for no one wanted to correct his dear .little mistake. His permission was asked when we wanted to pick eutoca, and it was always readily and génerously granted, but he never picked it himself, seeming to be satisfied with ownership and exhibiting it to others.

I had a wonderful bed of balsams in that garden, pruned and trimmed according to Vick's advice; the center plant to one stalk, the rest to three and five branches, with all side shoots kept pinched off. They grew between two and three feet high, possibly more, and the blossoms were magnificent.

One day baby disappeared and after much hunting and calling, I spied his yellow head among the balsams: he had crawled in and was sitting still as a mouse, waiting to be found. He had not broken a blossom, and after that it was his favorite hiding place until much crawling had worn little paths between the plants, but he was always careful not to break them. He ran about freely, and I had no anxiety concerning

It was so with the others, they were always interested in the flowers, had them of their own, and no more thought of pulling up or destroying the flowers and plants than they would have thought of pulling the cloth from the table, and breaking the dishes. It was just a matter of course with them that there should be flower beds outdoors, and plants and bouquets in the house, it was a part of home. (Continued on page twenty-six.)



The regular subscription price of this journal is 50 cents a year. A special rate of 25 cents a year or \$1.00 for four years is made to those keeping their subscriptions paid in advance. As this fact has not been well understood, we will extend any subscription, whether in arrears or just expiring, four years from date to which it is now paid for \$1.00. Remit promptly as this offer is for a limited time only. Failing to do this will subject you to a charge of 50 cents per year for arrearages.

FOR THE CHILDREN &

The Lost Gold Pieces

By Vera



ESSE LOOKED angry and perplexed. Bessie looked perplexed and tearful. These twin children stood staring silently at each other across a much disordered room. The center table was shoved against the window,

the bookcase doors swinging half open, rugs flung in a tumbled heap in the middle of the room, books, vases and bric-a-brac scattered about over the floor. A number of plants had been taken down from the well filled flower stand, and Oxalis, Easter Lilies, Begonias, Hyacinths and Violets were crowded together below the stand in a confused group, regardless of size or color. Indeed the dainty loveliness of a pink Azalea was marred by the luckless fate that had thrust it for the moment between a vivid scarlet Geranium and a pot of golden hued Tulips, dazzling in their brightness.

To add to the general confusion, a small, demure looking monkey was chattering away as shrilly as possible, perhaps to show his protest at being tied with a slender rope to an arm chair, now overturned and prone on its back. Had anyone asked the children what the matter was, both ofthe twins would have admitted, in rueful tones, it was Netta's money.

Netta's birthday that spring chanced to fall on Easter Monday, and she was to spend the Easter holidays at home, their parents having driven to the depot to meet her this afternoon. Her birthday present was to be in gold dollars, one for each of the sixteen years that had passed over her bright head. The twins had taken these out of their father's desk to look at and admire

the pretty gold coins. After playing with them awhile, both decided they were hungry and went in quest of doughnuts and bread and jam. On their return the shining little heap of gold had disappeared!

"That horrid monkey hid it!" protested Jesse, with a frown at poor Beppo. "Oh, then it is some where in the room, as mother tied him so he couldn't be playing pranks all over the house or running over to the neighbors!" observed Bessie. "If we had not been selfish, we would have taken him with us. Beppo

A Mathematical Problem.

(Written for Vick's Family Magazine.)

Billy's six years old today, And three feet, six inches tall; And Jimmy's five, and three feet five,— We measured them by the wall.

And I am four feet four; that's right,
For four and four are eight;
But Auntie—she is five feet three, And her age she will not state.

You cannot add or multiply And it puzzles Billy and me How to find what age it is That goes with five feet, three.

"Oh, square the numbers, then add," said John, And John is college bred
And ought to know; but Auntie laughed,
"You're getting warm," she said.

But this puzzles's worse than the other one It seems to Billy and me,—
How to make a crooked number square
Like a curly five, or three.

loves doughnuts too, and then he couldn't have gotten at the money." "Oh, we were not selfish! We just forgot him." "But selfishness is always forgetfulness of others," murmured Bessie softly.

Vain was their search of the room, for the miss-

ing coins, though they made it so very thorough. "It was all your fault!" burst forth Jesse in angry, defiant tones that made Bessie's blue eyes brim over with tears as she protested. "It wasn't a bit more my fault than yours! Didn't you take the money out of

the desk?" "Any how you kept begging me to," retorted the boy. "If I did then you ought, Bess, to have put it back." "Well, I know I have worked hard enough to find them," with a sob. "I have swept the room twice and shaken all the rugs and-"

"And I have felt on top of the bookcase and under it, and hunted in the stove, and taken down most of the flowers to look under them, and not one bit of use!" sighed Bessie. "Anyway, retorted the angry boy, "I mean to be even with Beppo for playing us such a mean trick. I guess a good beating will teach him to be careful about hiding our things another time." "What, beat him! No, you shan't! You musn't!" and tender hearted little Bessie, catching the monkey in her arms, ran several times around the flower stand, hotly pursued by her brother, shouting as they dodged in and out among the palms and other potted plants scattered around the stand, "Give him to me, Bess! Give him up, I say! I'll teach the little imp a lesson." Just then the girl, breathless in her haste, ran against a large pot of Callas which lurched violently forward. Both children paused in their race to seize the jar with eager hands, for were not these Callas. so pure and dainty in their loveliness, the pride of their mother's heart? Then it was the twins

burst into cries of astonished delight, while Beppo slid from Bessie's protecting arms, and fled unmolested to the top of the bookcase. So roughly had the jar been shaken, that some of the dirt rolled out on the floor,

(Continued on Page Twenty-Three.)

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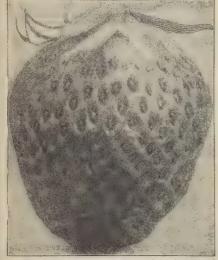
I hesitate to draw the line,

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THE HOUSEHOLD

One Hundred Things Worth Knowing.

(Winner of the first prize in our late contest.)

That a piece of charcoal thrown into the pot in which onions, cabbage, etc., are boiled will absorb the unpleasant if thrown into the starch.

That salt is not to be added to oatmeal until it has boiled about fifteen minutes.

That a lump of butter dropped into boiling molasses or maple candy will prevent it from running over.

That a piece of lace or thin muslin, starched and put over the holes or worn places in lace curtains will show very little and improve the looks of the cur-

That a handful of salt, thrown into the tepid water with which straw matting is wiped up, will make it look extra fresh and clean.

That the yolk of an egg gives richness to the milk you pour over asparagus; beat it well, add butter, salt and pepper as usual.

That an ounce of alum stirred into hot milk makes a fine bath for parts affected with rheumatism. The curds which form when the mixture gets cold makes an excellent poultice to put upon the parts over night.

That salt and soda, a pinch of each, put into tepid water makes as fine a dentifrice as one could wish.

That white wool articles are thoroughly cleansed by rubbing with dry flour. Shake well afterwards.

That a silver spoon, knife, or fork put into a glass jar or dish, will temper it so that it can be filled with anything hot, even to the boiling point.

That a raw egg, swallowed, will usually detach any foreign substance, like fishbone, if lodged in the throat.

That ink-spots on linen can be removed by dipping the article in pure melted tallow. Wash out the tallow and the ink will come with it.

That a teaspoonful of ammonia in the water in which silver is washed will keep it brilliantly bright.

That fresh lard will remove tar from either hands or clothing. Wash with soap and water afterwards.

That it takes less sugar for fruits and preserves if put in after they are well cooked.

That wet cooking soda, spread upon a thin cloth and bound over a corn will remove it.

That a paste made of equal parts of brimstone, saltpeter, and lard, if bound about a felon, will cure it. Renew as soon as it gets dry.

That a preparation of one ounce of flower of sulphur and one quart of soft water, if applied thoroughly to the scalp, night and morning, will remove every trace of dandruff and render the hair rich and glossy.

That a few drops of lime water, added to milk, will prevent it from souring on the stomach.

That a cloth-covered broom will wipe the dust from papered walls and ceilings.

That a cloth rung out of tepid water will not injure the most delicate wood- from falling out. work, if wiped with it.

That Indian meal and vinegar, used on hands when roughened by labor or cold, will heal and soften them.

That a little powdered borax will make washing look extra glossy when ironed,

That a scraping of raw potato, laid upon a soft cloth and bound over sore eyes will cure them.

That coarse brown wrapping paper soaked in vinegar and placed on the forehead and eyes is good for sick headache.

That powdered borax, strewn over places frequented by ants, cockroaches and other vermin will drive those pests away.

That one teaspoonful of pure, sweet oil, taken three times a day, after meals, will cure the worst case of dyspepsia.

That hot lemonade is one of the best remedies for a bad cold.

That crushed cubeb berries, smoked in a clay pipe, will cure catarrh.

That a preparation of fat oil varnish and rectified spirits of turpentine, if applied to iron, steel and other metal articles will prevent them from rusting.

That the dullest scissors can be sharpened if you try to cut, as it were, a coarse sewing needle with them.

That a layer of sugar over preserves, jellies, etc., will prevent them from gathering mould.

That a pinch of salt will improve the flavor of apple sauce.

That a teaspoonful of ournt sugar will give an amber color to soups made from

That a diet of tomatoes will ward off a bilious attack.

That slices of bread toasted in the oven until a golden brown are far more wholesome than those toasted in a toaster before an open fire.

That it is true economy to begin the dinner with soup of some kind.

That fish may be scaled much easier by first dipping them into boiling water for

That a teaspoonful of sugar added to pancake batter will make the cakes a golden brown.

That fresh meat, beginning to sour, will become sweet again if placed out of doors over night.

That a teaspoonful of turpentine put into the boiler with white clothes will aid the whitening.

That kerosene will soften boots and shoes that have been hardened by water.

That salt fish are best and quickest freshened by soaking in sour milk.

That a glass of buttermilk taken the last thing at night will cure stomach troubles.

That a spoonful of raw cornmeal, moistened with water, taken on an empty stomach, will cure constipation, if persisted in for some time.

That clear boiling water poured through tea stains will remove them.

That salt will curd new milk; hence in preparing dishes containing milk the salt should not be added until they are cooked.

That wetting the hair occasionally in a solution of salt and water will keep it

(To be continued in March issue.)

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By Victoria Wellman

"God could not be everywhereso He made Mothers."



Note:—Letters requesting private reply should be addressed to Victoria Wellman, care of Vick's Family Magazine, Rochester, N. Y. All letters accompanied by a stamp will receive reply in due order.

A Woman's Strike.

Once upon an evening dreary, As I pondered sad and weary, 'er the basket with the mending from the wash the day before,

As I thought of countless stitches To be placed in little breeches, e my heart rebellious in me as it oft had done before, Rose my

At the fate that did condema me when my daily task was o'er To that basket evermore.

John without a sign or motion
Sat and read the "Yankee Notion"
With no thought of the commotion which
within me rankled sobre.

thought I, "when day is ended,

Has no stockings to be mended, Has no babies to be tended, e can sit and read and snore; He can sit and read and rest him— Must I work thus evermore?" And my heart rebellious answered, Nevermore—no, nevermore!

For though I am but a woman, Every nerve within is human-Aching, throbbing, overworked, mind and body sick and sore. I will strike when day is ended

Though the stockings are not mended, Though my course can't be defended, safe behind the closet door Goes the basket with the mending

And I'll haunted be no more;
In the daylight shall be crowded all the
work that I will do;
When the evening lamps are lighted I

will read the paper, too!

Selected.

Busy Mothers.

The long, cold days of February are rich opportunities for those mothers who are not ill or oppressed by such heavy daily cares that all seasons are alike, heavy strains on body and nerves (and souls?). To those who can plan ahead a time to "catch up" on mending, remodeling, going through accumulated stores and "possibility barrels," dreaming meanwhile of some stroke of genius to be evolved from mere "scraps," is a small bonanza. Once upon a winter's day one such woman disposed of bundles. small bonanza. Once upon a winter's day one such woman disposed of bundles of clippings, for sometime a nuisance, which had awaited a time for transforming into scrapbooks. Her "scrap cookbook" was her special treasure and reliance during her future experience as housewife. Undoubtedly prudent housewives now sew on the needed appropriate the service of the process of the process of the process. housewife. Undoubtedly prudent house-wives now sew on the needed aprons, underwear and dresses for earliest spring, and others increase their bedding and table linen stores.

Spring coming apace will bring new cares and a langour which makes us poeti-cally lazy. Outdoor life will become more prominent and as for housecleaning!—so let us bustle busily during this month, since idleness is not life, and enjoy, too, a few holidays to warm the hearts at home. Also let us read. When we ever more enjoy our books and magazines than when by cozy fire we forget daily monotony and glean new ideas from the printed pages. Pity your ideas from the printed pages. Pity your great grandmother! Had she magazines like yours? No, worthy soul, she sat knitting on endless hose, for to have idle hands was a sin.

It puts so much new zest into life that the busy mother who can scarcely go to church or return a visit is the one who needs a good magazine. Any suburban woman or any flower lover would enjoy Vick,s—and I suggest the friendly club readers of our magazine as a cure for

some dreary days, for dreary days must come sometimes to all of us.

"There is a sight all hearts beguiling— A youthful mother to her infant smilling; Who with spread arms and dancing feet And cooling voice returns its answer sweet."

Young Mothers.

Every inexperienced woman needs to be urged to provide enough old soft cloths for the needs of mother and child cloths for the needs of mother and child on the great day and during first two weeks. Old sheets and pillow cases, old handkerchiefs and tablecloths and napkins are a boon. The sheets make good size squares; the pillow cases may make smaller inside squares; the old linen makes good absorbent first towels for babies and every tiny scrap of this material is useful for washing eyes, cleaning baby's mouth and the nipplesof the mother (with borax water or witch hazel) although when these are not to be had absorbent cotton is excellent. Cheesecloth sorbent cotton is excellent. Cheesecloth finds special uses at these times; of the cheapest quality of cheesecloth combined with cotton batting as cheap, squares may be made (and inside ones for the babe) loosely stitched, and these cost less than laundering so may well be burned during busy first week. These are so soft and so absorbent that all are advised to try

Another provision may be cheaply added and be prized. Of course nothing quite supplies the place of the Waterproof Bed Sheet heretofore commended for special and economical qualities, and this will continue to be needed after child-birth, and small sizes for infants or chil-dren's beds are as desirable; but for the dren's beds are as desirable; but for the special temporary use nothing quite supplies the place of bed pads. Two methods can be used in making these. For one an inner lining of old newspapers covered roughly by very old sheeting or even cheesecloth. The other and better uses old cotton and a cheesecloth cover, waking a square to cover fully confirm to the contraction. making a square to cover fully one-fourth of a double bed. This far excels the old quilt idea as it can be burned with the afterbirth. As paper is very absorbent bed and floor is often covered with same, they avoiding any disastrates avoident.

thus avoiding any disastrous accident.

Every mother during last two months should apply a mixture of equal parts should apply a mixture of equal parts tinctures of myrrh and Golden Seal to the nipples and gently press and draw the nipples between thumb and finger. Also it is wise to rub olive oil into breast surface daily and over the much distended this surface of shokener and list. skin surface of abdomen and limbs; the rubbing assists the breasts, keeping them soft and the tinctures above named are grand aids for preventing sore nipples.

Babies born in cold or windy damp weather are safest and sweetest if dressed in swaddling clothes. Treated to a warm will both after heavy granted to a warm

oil bath after being received into a warm oil bath after being received into a warm "receiving blanket," the hero of the occasion finds soft, coaxing blankets a great comfort. To be given a water bath in even a hot room jars his sensibilities. To be dressed for "show," alas! sometimes even in starched goods. times even in starched goods, must cause his first rebellious thoughts! At least the cause is sufficient!

The modern mother gives him a tiny

ightcap (in which he looks so "cute" and "sweet" there is danger lest someone kiss him too much,) made of thin cashmere or wash silk according to season, as she knows the draughts she cannot feel are plainly felt by the little tender heads (so often held) and that Corner heads (so often bald) and that German babies thus treated are noted for freedom from earache and nasal catarrh.

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Published by VICK PUBLISHING COMPANY

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The New Vick's Has Won.

If you could sit in our office and see the thousands of letters come in with subscriptions and words of praise for Vick's in its new form, you would become as enthusiastic over the magazine as we are. The new landscape covers are winning many new friends for the magazine as they recognize in them geuine works of art from a master had. Mr. Fisher is without a doubt the greatest charcoal landscape artist in America today; his pictures find a ready sale at good prices in New York and other art centers. When you consider that you get the twelve of these beautiful covers and fully 400 other large pages of printed matter by the best writers in a year's subscription to Vick's—all for twenty-five cents—you may well ask as do many of our readers "How can you give so much for so little money?" We are going to accept subscriptions at this very low price of 25 cents a year until we get 100,000 on our list, then our price will go back to 50 cents. You may subscribe for as many years in advance as you desire, however at the present rate you will do a kindness to your friends by showing them your magazine and calling attention to this special offer.

"I received the January number of your magazine and think it a very decided improvement. I hope it may win many new friends."—H. G., Riverton, N. J.

"I don't see how you can give us such a nice paper and pictures so cheap.''—R. E. M., Melrose, Fla.

"We like Vick's Magazine very, very much." Everything is so well written and the poems are beautiful. 'Through Fields and Woodlands,' is a well -chosen title.'"—Mrs. W. A. T., Santa Rosa,

"Your paper is splendid. I enjoy every bit of it. I send three names; wish it was one hundred. With best wishes."—Mrs. E. A. S., Carpenter, South Dakota.

The Fisher Charcoal Art Prints.

These great pictures delight every one who sees them. They are reproductions of the same Fisher pictures from which our covers are printed, but they are engraved on copper at great expense, without printing of any kind on a fine grade of American Creme Mat Board specially prepared for the purpose. The January and February pictures are now ready. Subscribers can have these pictures without cost by sending six cents additional for one, or ten cents additional for both, to cover cost of postage and packing on each picture when sending their subscriptions. Those who have already subscribed can secure them by sending ten cents for one or twenty-five cents for three. Price to those who are not subscribers twenty-five cents each postpaid.

"Vick's Magazine for January comes out in enlarged and greatly improved appearance, and broadened also in scope."—Evening Standard, New Bedford, Mass.

"Vick's Family Magazine, the noted periodical about flowers, and other matters of utility, beauty and happiness in the home, appears in its January issue enlarged and much improved. It is full of just such reading matter as ought to go into every household."—Dubuque Trade Journal, Dubuque, Ia.

Our Picture Prize Contest

Will close on February 25th. This is your last chance to enter it. Read our announcement on page twelve. Count the lines and send us the result with your subscription. Get others to subscribe and enter the contest; you get one chance for each subscription which you secure, almost anyone will subscribe at our very low rate of twenty-five cents.

"I am very much pleased with Vick's Magazine. It has improved since I took it some years ago. I would not like to lose a number."—Mrs. E. C. B., Sparta, Wis.

I have been trying to think for some time that I could not "I have been trying to think for some time that I could not afford to take your magazine, as we take so many. But I find I simply canot afford to be without it. In the two years I have taken it, you have made most wonderful improvements; and I congratulate you upon the high class matter you are giving your subscribers."—Mrs. J. G., Brainbridge, Ga.

You Can Help Us

and by doing so help yourself. There are three ways you can do it. First, get all the subscriptions you can for Vick's. We will pay you a cash commission or give you some valuable premiums. Second, patronize those who advertise in Vick's. We mean to admit none but reliable firms to our advertising columns. Mention Vick's when writing to advertisers. Third, you can help us by writing us stating what you like in Vick's and what you do not like, also making suggestions for improvements. We want to publish the best possible magazine for our readers.



You may have your choice of Four Fruit Flavors: Lemon, Orange, Raspberry, or Strawberry. If you wish I will add Nuts, Figs or Fruit of any kind and serve it either alone or with whipped cream. There is no desserts a attractive or so easy to prepare. Simply add a pint of boiling water to a package of Jell-O and set to cool, and everybody likes it. Always keep a few packages in the house for an emergency. All grocers sell it. 10c per package.

The Genesee Pure Food Co., LeRoy, New York.

"Under blue Italian skies."

SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY.

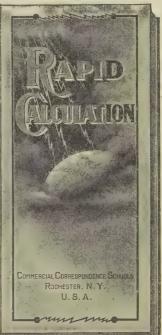
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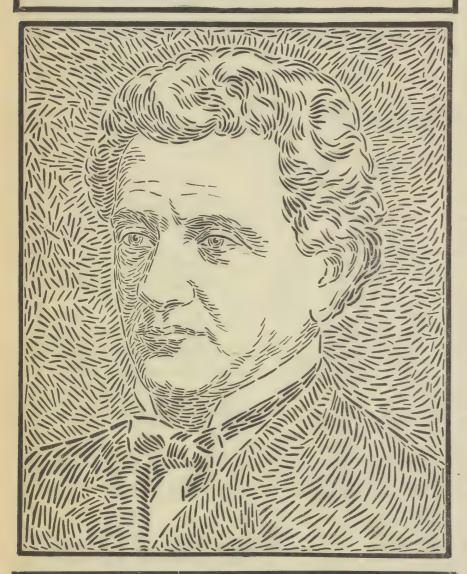
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This is the picture of JAMES VICK the well known seedsman and publisher whose name has been before the American people for over half a century. He established VICK'S FAMILY MAGAZINE in 1878, and it has been recognized as the leading journal of its kind ever since. With the improvements which we are making it is big value at our special price of only 25c. Ask others to subscribe with you. Each one is entitled to one count, and you may have one count or estimate for each subscription you obtain.



CONDITIONS You are to estimate or count the number of lines in the above picture the one who comes the nearest will get the first prize, the next the divided equally between those treing.

This Contest Will Close on Feb. 25, 1904. PRIZES FOR THIS CONTEST.

FIRST PRIZE SECOND PRIZE THIRD PRIZE

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| Gentle | men:—Enclosed find \$ | ••••• | for | ••••• | |
| | I estim | ate | | lines in the p | icture |
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| P. O | •••••• | | | | |
| Street or R | R. D | | State | ••••••• | |

Home Dressmaking

HINTS BY MAY MANTON.



Design by May Manton.

No material suits young girls better than the fashionable shepherd's check. This stylish frock is made of the material with trimming of black velvet ribbon and fancy buttons which give touches of color. The waist is peculiarly graceful with its cape bertha and stole ends while the skirt is tucked to fit snugly about the hips but left free to flare freely at the feet. A May Manton pattern of above waist 4508, sizes 12 to 16, or of skirt 4485, sizes 12 to 16, will be mailed to any address by the Fashion Department of this paper on receipt of 10c. for each.

One of the Latest Designs.



By May Manton.

and will be greatly worn for both walking and visiting. This stylish one is made of plum colored zibeline stitched with black and shows one of the newest capes with the wide sleeves that are so necessary over the season's blouses. The skirt is laid in box plaits that conceal all seams and which are allowed to flare beskirt is laid in box plaits that conceal all seams and which are allowed to flare below the knees. To cut the coat will be required 4 yards 44 or 3½ yards 52 inches wide; to cut the skirt 5¾ yards 44 or 5 yards 52 inches wide. A May Manton pattern of above coat 4522, sizes 32 to 40, or of skirt 4489, sizes 22 to 30 will be mailed to any address by the Fashion Department of this paper on receipt of ten cents for each. ten cents for each.

A Smart Dinner Gown.



Princess styles are to be noted among the latest importations and are essentially smart. This handsome gown exemplifies one of the best models and is made of mauve velvet with yoke of tucked chiffon, trimming of cream lace and fancy braid. Front and back are made full length, but the sides are lengthened by a circular flounce that gives grace and flare. A May Manton pattern, No. 4556, a circular nounce that gives grace and flare. A May Manton pattern, No. 4556, sizes 32 to 40, will be mailed to any address by the Fashion Department of this paper on receipt of ten cents.

Crepe de Chine and Lace.



Costumes made with plain coats and plaited skirts make a feature of the season favorite combination and is much liked

both in white and color, for the odd waist and the gown. This stylish blouse shows the crepe in maize, with cream lace over white mousseline and a finish of fancy silk braid, and is exceedingly of lancy silk braid, and is exceedingly effective. The fronts are tucked to provide becoming fulness over the bust, the back to produce tapering lines that always are becoming. A May Manton pattern, No. 4555 sizes 32 to 40, will be mailed to any address by the Fashion Department of this paper on receipt of ten cents.

A Smart Walking Costume.



By May Manton.

Street costumes made with plain coats and plaited skirts that clear the ground are the smartest of all smart things. This one is made of military blue melton in one is made of military blue melton in light weight and is stitched with self color and trimmed with handsome metal buttons. The coat is the severely tailored one but with ample sleeves that allow of wearing a fancy bodice beneath. A May Manton pattern of above coat 4505, sizes 32 to 40, or of skirt 4463, sizes 22 to 30, will be mailed to any address by the Eashian Department of this paper. by the Fashion Department of this paper on receipt of 1oc. for each.



All bertha waists are in style and are peculiarly charming worn by young girls. This one is made of maize crepe de Chine with the yoke of white chiffon, laid in folds, the bertha dotted with French knots in chenille and trimmingof cream Venetian lace. When liked the lining beneath the yoke can be cut away giving a transparent effect, or, again, the bertha

can be made of contrasting material. The design suits both the entire frock and the odd waist and all the pretty soft wools and silks of fashion. A May Manton pattern No. 4470 sizes 12 to 16 years will be mailed to any address by the Fashion Department of this paper on receipt of ten cents.

A Stylish Shirt Waist Gown.



By May Manton.

Shirt waist gowns grow in favor from month to month and are unrivalled for all occasions of simple dress. This one is made of prune colored henrietta with trimming of embroidery and chemisette and cuffs of cream colored cloth stitched. The sailor waist is always becoming and includes the newest sleeves while the The sailor waist is always becoming and includes the newest sleeves while the nine gored skirt means ample and graceful flare at the feet. A May Manton pattern of above waist No. 4482, sizes 32 to 40 or skirt No. 4441, sizes 22 to 30, will be mailed to any address by the Fashion Department of this paper on receipt of 100, for each. 10c. for each.

Special Offer.

For a short time we will mail these patterns to any address for only 10 cents each or three for 25 cents. Their regular retail prices range from 25 to 40 cents. The patterns are all of the latest New York modes and are unequalled for Style, accuracy of fit, simplicity and economy. With each is given full descriptions and directions—quantity of material required, the number and names of the different pieces in the pattern, with a picture of the garment to go by.

We can also furnish any of the patterns illustrated in the last Five issues of Vick's Family Magazine.

VICK PUBLISHING CO.,

Rochester, N. Y. For a short time we will mail these

We want 100,000 subscribers this winter and we are going to get them too, and just as soon as we do, our subscription price will go back to 50 cents a year. It's worth it. Can you get any other magazine in America as good as Vick's for less than 50 cents? We know you cannot and believe you will find it impossible to duplicate even at that rate. However, we are going to accept subscriptions at only 25 cents for a short time and if you are not a subscriber, we hope you will fill out coupon on opposite page and send today-now. Don't delay, you may forget it. If you are a subscriber this is a splendid time to send us your renewal as this is the last chance you will have to guess the number of lines in Mr. Vick's picture in opposite

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Yours respectfully,

HENRY HAMANY

BOLTON LANDING, WARREN Co., N. Y.

GENTLEMEN—I am more pleased with the "1900" Washer than I ever expected to be with a machine. There cannot be too much said in its praise; would repeat all that has been said if it would induce one poor skeptic like myself to buy one. I enclose \$6, balance in payment of machine.

Yours respectfully,

MRS. B. F. BENNETT.

NAPLES, N. Y. GENTLEMEN—I have used your Washer twice and am very much pleased with it. I have always had a great prejudice against washing machines, as I did not believe there had ever been one invented that would wash perfectly clean, but I am convinced that the "1900" Washer does the work in a perfectly thorough manner, and I can cheerfully and

"1900" Washer does the work in a perietary intologic manager and conscientiously recommend it to all. Wishing you every success, I am,

MRS. C. W. SLAYTON

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MARVIN SMITH CO. CHICAGO. ILL.



Seasonable Suggestions.

Everything is ice and snow in the North and mud and water in the South, where the land is rich enough to make mud, these wintry days. It is the time to keep indoors, as much as is possible, or to work at something out of doors that will not expose one unduly. It is a good time to think of what is to be done the coming growing season, and this is time well spent.

Are the plans made for the addition that is needed to the orchard or berry patch, or the new one that is to be planted? Have you the catalogues of several good nurseries, or, are you waiting to be victimized by the slick tongued agent of some unreliable firm or dealer? Know well what you are going to do about this important matter before the time for planting comes. Consult the best authorities as to what to plant. Write to those of your own State or to the Agricultural Department at Washington for advice. If you do not have as good advice as there is it will be your own fault.

It always pays to order early, that the nurseryman may have ample time to get all things ready for an early shipment. There is usually far more blame chargeable to the delay of the planter than to the tardiness of the nurseryman, in getting behind in the spring planting.

Have the plans all made as to how the planting is to be done; the distances apart for the trees or plants; the tools that are to be used and, if possible, what help will be needed and this all engaged. It is the early planting that starts off the best and does the best all the growing season.

The spraying should be looked into while there is plenty of time to prepare for it. Some of the chemicals may be hard to get, if not impossible, if put off until they are needed. A part of the spraying should be done before spring has fairly opened. Get the full directions for spraying all kinds of things from the experiment stations, study them with the utmost care and try to follow them exactly. It is the hunter who aims his gun directly at the game, after loading it with the proper charge for the game he is expecting to kill, and fires just at the right time, that gets it. So it is with the sprayer, in every particular. We often hear of those who have sprayed and failed in the expected results, and if the whole truth were known the cause would be plain enough, and the fault laid at the door of the sprayer.

The mice need looking after, and it is well to not take too much for granted but put on rubber boots and go out in the orchards and see if there are any signs of the bark being gnawed off under the snow, trash or soft ground. If there are any holes or other signs of mice, a little poisoned grain or vegetables poked into their burrows will kill them.

If any grafting is to be done it is time | to be getting the scions and have them stored in a safe place, where they will be sure not to start their buds or to dry out in any degree and be ready for use when the time comes. The wax should be got ready also. It is easily made and there is no need to wait until the time for grafting to do it. Get the materials together and make it on the kitchen or shop stove some day when it is too bad weather to work outside. Procure one pound of tallow, two pounds of beeswax or one and a half of paraffine instead, and four pounds of rosin, or in this proportion for larger or smaller quantities, as may be needed. Melt them all together in some old iron pot and pour into a tub of water. When cool enough to handle it should be worked like taffy and made out into balls about the size of one's fist, rolled in greased papers and laid away.

There is more danger of rabbits eating the bark from trees from now until spring than at any other time of year.

It is better not to wait until the damage is done and then scold about it. Get a piece of raw liver and rub it thoroughly over the bodies of the small trees. from the ground to a foot above it. This will often prevent the trouble. But wrapping with cloth, paper, or anything that the rabbits will not eat is still better, and the only sure preventive that I

Pruning Currant Bushes.

As the currant is one of the most prolific of all fruits it is necessary to treat it with the best of judgment. It is proper that the bushes should bear abundantly but they should not be allowed to overbear and become stunted. Liberal manuring is needful to enable them to produce good crops of fruit of good quality, and there is nothing better than stable manure for this purpose, for it contains fertility and when decayed adds humus to the soil. It is quite important that current bushes should be so pruned that they will always have some new wood. The old wood sets, many fruit buds and in many cases they become so numerous that the fruit becomes small and the growth of the bushes is seriously retarded. In such cases the use of the pruning knife is greatly needed. The old wood should be cut back close to the ground and new shoots encouraged to grow up. These should be cut back almost half their length the next winter or early in the spring. If a little is done each year in the way of cutting out old wood, heading back and thinning out the younger growth to a reasonable degree there will be a great difference seen between those so treated and those let grow without such attention. Of course the proper manuring and tillage of the soil must not be neglected.

Fruit and the Birds.

Within the last few years there has been much stir, and in some cases hotly

(Continued on Page Seventeen.)



CHARLES A. GREEN.

The Bank President who Peddled Strawberries.

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The Garden

CONDUCTED BY JOHN ELLIOTT MORSE

A Talk About Hot Beds.

By the following, I do not wish to be understood, that the hot bed is an absolutely essential adjunct of at least, a fairly successful garden. Were it thus, then many would of necessity have to forego all the benefits and pleasures too, of home-grown vegetable supply. Doubtless there are very few of our readers but that can accomplish something in the forcing line, and if the larger, more expensive beds are not practicable, then perchance a smaller one may be profitably utilized. Even one sash, if worked to the limit, will give surprising results; "but lacking this, I shall still refuse to excuse any, at least, until an honest effort has been made with a warm sunny window. "For want o' better shift," a box of good garden loam with an East or South window will be very helpful and save considerable time over an entire dependence upon the open ground. True, many will be able to purchase plants in the market and, no doubt, at less actual cost than they can grow them; but that is at the expense of much useful knowledge as well as pleasure. So I insist that we do all that is possible ourselves and thus be our own masters. With a well defined object in view, most of us can carve out our own fortunes and thus be under no obligations to others; so a few suggestions will, we trust, be timely and helpful.

Heating Material.

Fresh stable manure is the best available material for the bed; and this can be obtained even in the cities and towns by a little timely effort. To be at its best, it should contain a goodpercentage of straw bedding; although leaves or other litter will answer. Pile if possible under shelter and fork over often enough to prevent burning. A few days before required for use it should be thoroughly mixed and piled to start the heating process. Wet slightly if necessary and let it remain thus until heat is generated. Fork over once again, so that the heat will be evenly distributed and when well warmed up it will be ready for use.

The best design, of course, is the one large frame holding a single pane of glass. This gives best results; but the large glass is expensive and if one is broken, it costs considerable to replace it. So the most generally in use, are the common sky light sash holding three or four rows of 8x10 or 10x12 glass. These can be ordered from any sash and door factory and in any size or length desired. The manufacturers usually make them in regular sizes; and larger or smaller ones are charged extra price for the trouble of resetting machinery. A good way is to order the sash first, then the size of frame can be easily adjusted to suit any number desired.

The Frames.

These can be made of any good inch lumber or better still planks, and ought to be 12 to 14 inches in front and 16 to 20 inches high at the back. Many take the trouble to make the frame or box of dressed lumber and paint it, putting together with screws or bolts so that when not in use it can be taken down and stored. I shall not insist on going to all this trouble; but will score a reward of merit for all who do. I will be content however, if a goodly percentage of our readers get even the plain boxes for the trial effort.

The Soil.

This is an important matter, and to quite an extent is responsible for success or failure. Rich garden loam is best, and by all means clay should be avoided as it causes no end of trouble by baking or becoming lumpy in the

Air slacked lime—a pint to a bushel of soil, will very materially benefit the condition of the soil, and perchance save much damage from fungus diseases or insects. Good thrifty plants cannot be grown on soil lacking fertility, so if well fertilized it will save disappointment.

Preparing the Bed.

The essentials for success in hot bed work, while few, are very exacting. Chief of these are steady heat, moisture, stirring the soil and airing the bed. Long continued and steady heat can only be obtained by a heavy body of manure, so this is the first considera tion. If excavations are made, then an ample amount of manure can be used, mostly below the surface. If the beds are made entirely above ground then more depth of frame is desirable. Suppose the latter is the case, and our frames are but twelve or fourteen inches high at the front, at least half of this must be reserved for the soil and plant space which gives us but a shallow depth of manure and consequently a short lived bed. What then shall we do? Simply make a good founda tion of manure. Select a well drained spot, warm and sunny, and sheltered from west and north. Start thefoundation at least one foot larger each way than size of frame. The most particular work of all is spreading and tramping the manure. Make sure that there are no hard heaps or loosely packed places, else the bed will settle unevenly and the soil will break away from, and destroy the plant roots. The manure should be several inches high before the frame is placed, then fill up inside and bank outside clear to the top. The surface of the bed should be kept the same slope as the top of the frame; and the sash be made to nicely fit so that the warm air cannot escape.

We prefer to put on the sash and allow the heat to get well started before put-

(Continued on Page Seventeen.)

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The Man-Weight Cultivator came to-day. We tried it along with a ... All present thought that the Man-Weight was the best. The soil was very heavy, but the machine did excellent work. We tried it in cabbage, tomatoes, beets, onlons and corn. There is one thing that the boys like about the Man-Weight: they say that when they are using it they are strictly up-to-date.—Will G. Speedlove, Harrisville, Mo., June 14, 1903.

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In The Garden.

(Continued from Page Fifteen,)

ting on the soil: After all is carefully done, allow the bed to stand for a few days with frequent ventilating until the rank heat has passed off. The temperature may run to one hundred degrees or more for the first few days; but no harm will be done if properly aired. When the heat settles down steadily to about ninety degrees, the bed is in good condition for sowing the seed.

The Cold Frame.

The one described some time ago was more especially designed for carrying plants through the winter; and if already on hand is, of course, so much gained. For use in connection with the hot bed, they are almost indispensable, and with cloth covers, can be made very cheaply. The frame can be made the same as for the hot bed; and the cover frames made of light stuff in sections. Use ordinary sheeting for the covers, tacked tightly over the frames. Thoroughly mix one egg in a pint of raw linseed oil. Paint with three or four coats of this and the covers will stand almost any amount of rain. They also make very good hot bed covers and, after the severe cold weather is over. I prefer them to glass for some kinds of plants.

As to the Possibilities.

An ordinary 51/2x12 foot hot bed with same sized cold frame hardly seems capable of producing very great results. Yet if properly managed and utilized to their full capacity, they are brim full of surprises. As to how much can be grown in so little space depends largely upon the season of starting and the kinds of plants grown. Some sorts require much more time than others, and also require less growing space. In this connection, it is well to give careful consideration to the foregoing points. The market gardener with ample facilities can perhaps afford to be more prodigal of space; but the few feet of bed that the ordinary family may provide must be more carefully economized. With a heavy foundation of manure, capable of standing several weeks continuous work, crops may follow each other in succession clear up to the time when the open ground may be

safely used for all purposes. We have grown radishes eady for table use in seventeen days, and with tomato seed sown April 1, after transplanting once in the hot bed, have poted and transferred the plants to cold frames in thirty-three days. Cabbage and cauliflower sown at the same time were transplanted to the open ground May 5, and the plants found ready sale at fifteen cents per dozen. As fast as space was cleared of one kind, other sorts were sown, and the cash sales from one hot bed and cold frame for a single season amounted to several dollars, and far more than half the products were used for home planting. The luxury and convenience of a hot bed will many times repay the trouble and cash outlay and, in my own experience I have never seen a season when the plants did not find ready sale at good prices. Lest we encroach upon the space of the February Special, we must close else the editor will ring us off. March will be the special garden number, and we trust it will prove specially helpful in the garden work.

Fruit Notes.

(Continued from Page Fourteen.)

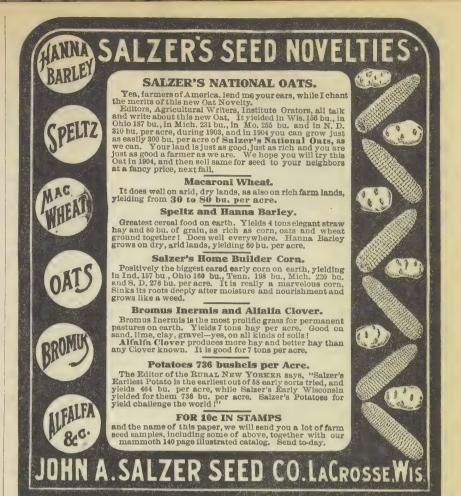
contested discussions, about the good and evil of birds among the fruits. There is no doubt of there being two sides to the question. During certain times when cherries, berries, and grapes are ripening, some of the birds are very troublesome and even destructive. There are those who lay all sentiment aside, such as the songs the birds sing and their cheery, bright habits, and deliberately shoot them. They are indeed marauders when they choose to ravage the fruits, as they often do. Perhaps they deserve killing at these times, for it is about impossible to guard the trees and bushes or to drive away the birds. This is the cold, business side of the matter.

However, there is another side, and it is not all sentiment, either. Most birds are insect destroyers. They live among the trees and vines and feed their young and themselves very largely upon the insects they find there. They no doubt get some of our insect friends, but, as these are not very common, they destroy our enemies for the most part. There have been careful examinations made in many parts of the country by scientists to see what the stomachs of birds contained. where they had been feeding in orchards and elsewhere, and with the general result that the proportion of injurious insects was very large. Many fruit growers are willing to share their fruit with the birds, because they think the good they do in keeping down insects is greater than the value of the fruit they eat. It is my own belief that this is usually the right way to look at this matter. Nature maintains a balance that is usually not far from right for all con-

However, there are some birds that are bad at all times. The English sparrows are the most prominent of these. They do no good worthy of mention, as they rarely eat insects, and often feast on the grains and fruits on the farm. They should be shot at, poisoned, or killed in any way that is most effective. The waxwing or cedar bird is another pest. They come in great flocks at cherry time and often strip the trees. They are so sudden in their flight, coming and going like a flash, that it is very hard to shoot them or to even see them without the closest watching. It is said that a stuffed hawk fastened on a pole that is a-little higher than the cherry trees will scare them away, but I have never tried it. Where there are but a few trees or vines to protect from the ravages of birds it may be done by covering with old fish or tennis nets, and in the case of grapes by bagging, but in large places this is not practicable. Use the gun if absolutely necessary but let that be a last resort.

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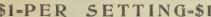
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Poultry Department

Conducted by Vincent M. Couch

Those who have suggestions to make or questions to ask are invited to write direct to Mr. Couch at his home, Larkfield, N. Y. Enclose a stamp if you desire a reply.—Ed.

Settling On a Breed.

Settling On a Breed.

It takes years for some people to settle on a breed of poultry, some never find a breed that meets their views, others select a kind at the start which suits them so well that they never change. I have bred many different kinds of poultry and have several favorites, one of which is the Light Brahma, which I believe to be one of the best all-round breeds there is. I believe that every breed has its faults, some more than others. One thing put down against the Brahma is their persistent broody habits. It is true that when this fever comes on to them, they are pretty sure to oppose any other measure, pretty sure to oppose any other measure, but there is a difference in strains about this; some have no more inclination to sit than the Plymouth Rocks or Wyandottes, in fact not so much so as some families of these breeds. But then I do not cosider this a serious fault, even if they are obstinate in giving up the broody habit. Take for instance, the man who keeps only twenty or thirty fowls, by having this breed, if he had his laying stock hatched out early and gave them good fall and winter care he will have no use for a incubator or brooder to hatch and raise seventy-five to one hundred chicks. For there are no better layers in winter, if rightly cared for, than the Brahmas, and with those which have laid well in winter there will be a sufficient number of sitting hens in March to get out all the early chicks required, and this is quite an item with the small poultryman. A good many people are not situated so that they care to have an incubator around.



IDEAL LIGHT BRAHMAS.

Many of them live in rented houses, and the owners object to incubator or brooder being run on the premises. At the same time you are anxious to get out a few early chicks so as to have some fall layers and good sized cockerels to eat or sell along in the summer, and here is where the Brahma comes in as a reliable fowl.

For the villager, or one having little For the villager, or one having little land, I know of no more suitable breed than this. They are heavy and can be confined by a very low fence, are of quiet disposition, never flying about when you go among them. If one accidentally escapes from the yard it can be easily caught and returned, and little damage will be done by the fowls if allowed to roam about. As a market fowl they are among the best. They grow fast and when matured are next in size to a turkey, and finer flavored meat grow tast and when matured are next in size to a turkey, and finer flavored meat never was produced. As to hardiness I doubt if any breed equals them, even from the time they pip the shell until they are grown up, and no breed requires so little attention after a few weeks old. As cold weather layers they are reliable and produce a large brown egg. But and produce a large brown egg. But in conclusion let me say, if you are to start in new with this breed, buy of responsible and well known breeders, such as you can depend upon to give

you the right kind of stock. There are many such breeders in the country, but there is a good deal of difference in the strains of Light, Brahmas in the country. They vary more, especially as to laying and brooding qualities, I believe, than any other breed of poultry, so it is worth your while, if you are particular to have the best, to investigate the matter before making a purchase.

A Few Reminders.

Clean the eggs as soon as gathered, using a damp cloth.

Poke root pounded up and put in the drinking water is said to be a good remedy for cholera.

A teaspoonful of molasses with six or

seven drops of kerosene oil in it, is said to be good for roup. It is simple, try it. Don't allow a lousy hen to take a brood

Don't allow a lousy hen to take a brood of chicks; the lice will leave the hen and go on the chicks, and if not looked after will surely kill them.

A few drops of spirits of camphor in the drinking water is recommended for bowel trouble in chicks. A preventive is better than a cure however. Avoid sloppy food

sloppy food.
When the weather becomes quite cold the hens require more food. percentage goes to supply animal heat then. Hens that are laying regularly also need more food than those which are

not producing eggs.

It is best to make a practice of gathering the eggs three or four times a day now, while they are being saved for hatching. By taking more care in this chore better hatches will be the

If you have noticed during the winter a difference in the hens as to their laying qualities, select for breeders those which you know to be persistent egg producers, discarding all others. By following this plan the flocks will be much improved.

It is the opinion of some that the Barr-

ed and White Plymouth Rocks are losing ground as layers, too much attention having been given to producing them for meat and the fancy. The Wyandottes and Rhode Island Reds, especially the latter, are making great records as winter layers.

Don't neglect to provide your fowls with plenty of grit to grind up their food with. Poultry that is confined in small yards must have it, or sickness will follow, and even for those that have free range it is better to have a dish of of the material offered for this purpose is almost worthless. It should not be too large nor so sharp that it will cut, but it must be hard.

Careful broading indicious feeding and

Careful brooding, judicious feeding, and plenty of fresh air and exercise, are what make healthy, vigorous chicks. The first ten days to two weeks of the brooding, special attention should be paid to the work, so as to have everything as near right as it is possible to make it. If you are able to carry them along to this age in tip top condition they will stand roughing it a little more from then on, but they are by no means past the danger line.

danger line.

Our most successful poultrymen make vegetables a good portion of the feed for their flocks. Such a diet promotes the health of the fowls, helps the egg yield, and at the same time is a source of economy. When planting your small crops this spring see that a plot of ground is set aside for the special purpose of

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growing vegetables for the hens. These roots and vegetables, of course, contain little nutriment as compared with grain, large per cent. of them being water, ut they are excellent to make up a but they variety.

As a rule it is not the hatching of the chicks that we find so difficult. but the raising of them up to six or eight weeks of age, hence in the selection of a broodshould be more particular with the incubator. A good many build their own brooders, some are quite successful, others are as far the opposite. Except when a man has the lumber and all facilities and is very handy, I can see little gained in making your own brooder. When you have your own brooder. When you have paid for lumber, lamp and the tinner's bill, you will generally have an expense that will about equal the cost of a good, practical, factory made brooder. They can be bought from four dollars up. writer has used several of the five dollar brooders for three years past, and find them to be durable and serviceable.

Questions and Answers.

Pullets Moulting-Will chicks hatched in February and March moult next fall? Those hatched in February will be

rall? Those hatched in February will be very likely to shed their feathers this fall, and some of the March hatcheu also. Damp Hen House—My poultry house is a cheap, single wall structure, but is very damp, how can I prevent it? Place cross pieces overhead so as to make a conferled and full with days straw, this will scaffold, and fill with dry straw, this will absorb the moisture. In low buildings, open the door or windows for an hour or two every dry, pleasant day. A Fair Hatch—What is considered a fair

hatch from thirteen eggs? Seven lively chicks. No breeder can guarantee the eggs to hatch, as that is beyond his control; the best he can do is to send eggs from vigorous stock and pack them care-

Green Ducks-I note in market quota-Freen Ducks—I note in market quota-tions of green ducks, what are they? Young ducks marketed at the age of eight to twelve weeks are called green ducks. The raising of this kind of stock is carried on quite extensively around New York and especially on Long Island.

A Ration for Twelve Hens—What amount and kind of food should be given to a dozen Plymouth Rocks in winter and in summer? For a mash I would use five pounds each of corn meal, bran and middlings, fifteen pounds ground oats, ten pounds clover meal, making forty pounds of dry mixture; moisten to a crumbly mash with hot water or skim milk and give two pounds at a feeding, either in morning or evening. Feed at noon one quart wheat, oats or barley and for third meal the same, except in and for third meat the same, except in cold weather, then give one quart corn at night. In summer omit the corn entirely. Scatter all grain in litter. If fresh cut bone and meat can not be had, add five pounds meat meal or beef scrap to above mash. This ration is intended for fowls that are confined in yards. If they have free range, the meat and clover may be omitted in warm weather, also the third meal, at noon.

Preserving Eggs—What process is best adapted to the preservation of eggs, and how long will it keep them fresh? The best method no doubt is cold storage. They may be kept in this way for weeks, are even months, in a fair state of preserver. or even months, in a fair state of preservation, but not fresh.

Feeding a Mash to the Different Breeds.

We hear and read a great deal about feeding hens for winter egg production. This subject of feeding hens in winter has undergone many changes of opinions

during the last few years, and very many of these changes have been brought about by experience.

Some advise feeding the mash in the some advise feeding the mash in the morning, and some at night. Some say feed it every day, others two or three times a week. My opinion is that there can be no set rule for feeding laying hens, for the simple reason that all breeds can not be treated alike with the best results. I would have three distinct divisions in the ways of feeding fowls, —one for the light weights, such as Leg-horns and Minorcas, one for medium sized fowls, or Rocks and Wyandottes, and one for the heavier class or Brahmas, Langshans, etc. Take for instance the Brahmas and feed them as we would a Leghorn and the results would be anything but satisfactory, as they are almost opposite in nature and habits. And then the Rocks, Rhode Island Reds, etc., come in between the two and should be handled and fed differently from either of the other classes.

As to the time for feeding a mash to the fowls, I have fed it morning and even-ing (once daily) with about equal results. However in mild weather, I think, to give it at night instead of in the morn-ing, especially with the medium sized and heavy fowls is best, as they require less to keep them warm during the night than the small breeds. And then, if we give these heavy birds—which are large feeders—a good sized mash in the morning, they are very apt to gorge themselves, turn away with a full crop and bunch up in some sunny spot, where they will remain until the next feeding time. Their natures are different from the light breeds, they are not as active and lively, hence will not work off a heavy meal like some of the smaller and more industrious varieties. To fill a fowl's crop the first thing in the morning is not the natural way.

The hen roaming at large, searching

The hen roaming at large, searching her own feed, comes in at night with a full crop, and has been the entire day accumulating it. This is nature's way of accumulating it. This is nature's way of feeding, so if we confine our fowls in winter, and expect any good results, we must endeavor to follow nature's plans

To Leghorns I have given a light morning mash every day of the week with good results, but it must be fed with judgment and the actions of all in the lot should be noted. If they eat a little and leave the feed in an indifferent way and mope about, they are overfed, and their rations should be cut down, or changed to something entirely different. If they are quite fat I would only give a mash two or three times during the week, and have it consist largely of green food. For a change, other days feed oats, wheat and barley mixed, and see that this grain is thoroughly scattered in the litter, so as to compel them to work hard to get it. to compel them to work hard to get it.

A flock of hens that are being properly fed, will act lively and be ready to grab the first particle of food that is put down, as though they had been without feed for days,—two or three handfuls extra will not hurt a flock like this, but the owner will make a mistake if he the owner will make a mistake if he undertakes to fill them up at once. For Leghorns, the ration adopted by J. G. Whitten, Genoa, N. Y., for use with his Feeder and Exerciser, I have found to be excellent, which consists of five parts wheat bran, five parts oat meal, three parts wheat middlings and three parts linseed meal (oil coke); wet up the mixture with skimmed milk and feed warm, about five pounds to one hundred fowls.

about five pounds to one hundred fowls.
Rhode Island Reds, Plymouth Rocks and Wyandottes are all quite heavy feeders, and if given a full meal in the morning they are very apt to eat so much that it makes them dull during all the rest of the day, hence to these breeds I would be careful about feeding too liberally of the morning mash. ally of the morning mash.

The Asiatics require still more care in feeding, for they are heavier and much more inclined to laze around. So, if a mash is given to these fowls in the morning it must be in small quantities or just enough to quiet their craving for food. The result of this method will be

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EDWARD GILLETT,

Mass: Southwick,

that they will still be hungry, and will go at once to work in the litter for more food. At no time would I give these lowls a full meal of any kind of food, except at or near roosting time, when they should be given what thy will clean up, so they will go on the roost with a up, so the full crop.

The only object I can see in feeding the mash in the morning is to give the hens a warm meal, which stimulates their blood and takes off the chill of the cold night, and the only reason I can see for not feeding it at night, is that in severe winter veather the fowls require some-thing nere substantial to carry them through the cold nights, so in feeding a mash I believe we should be governed largely by the weather and the breed of

Last Season's Experience with Brooder

Chicks.

Poultry raising has become to be quite an important brach of farm work in this section of Long Island, and it was quite interesting last year to note the difference in success between one poultry raiser and another. While scientific and learned people tell us there is no special knack to the work, only regular and careful attention with strict cleanliness being required to make a success at the busi-ness, it would appear to me that there are sometimes many peculiarities about the work. In my observation and experience last season I noted that some persons who gave their chicks the least care and attention raised the largest per cent of chicks. One party in particular who had no previous experience at chicken raising whatever, started in with a 240 egg incubator in March, took off 130 chicks, placed them all in a five dollar brooder and raised 128 of them, and the brooder was never cleaned from the day the chicks, were put in it until they the chicks were put in it until they were five weeks old. They were fed on bread from the start, made of one part oread from the start, made of one part corn meal, one quarter bran, starch and Pratt's food, stirred up with some milk, two teaspoonfuls baking soda, baked dry and fed five times daily. A healthier and finer lot of chicks I never saw before. Another nearby neighbor saw before. Another nearby neighbor who had been in the business for several years, made several hatches with exactly the opposite results. Other experienced poultrymen who had a right to know just how to care for chicks for best results, and did give them the very best attention failed with almost every hatch. Bowel complaint seemed to be the prevail-

ing trouble.

I believe it is not disputed by any one that cleanliness and careful attention means a good deal in handling chicks successfully, but I am satisfied there is a great deal back of this, which if not given the required attention, cleanliness and careful handling will not save them. A year ago this last winter and spring had two lots of Plymouth Rocks house in rather low buildings, which were inclined to be damp. The stock to begin with was in fine condition, but along in April one hen showed signs of having a light touch of roup, others became droopy as result of indigestion. The eggs were well fertilized but did not hatch well, and many of the chicks seemed to be weak after being in the brooder three or four days, and soon went down with bowel trouble. Eggs from Leg-horns and Rhode Island Reds kept in drier quarters, hatched better and the chicks were stronger, yet many of these died from same complaint. I could ac-count for the mortality of the latter only from their being brooded and kept with the more weak and sickly ones, as each and all had the very best attention and feed that could be given them.

In raising chickens it all depends whether you have a strong chick to begin with or not. A chick from robust stock, if well hatched will stand a good deal of roughing it, and can be fed almost anything and thrive. But if the parent stock is a little "off," and they don't need to be much out of condition either to show the bad effects, or if the incubator runs at a little too high or too low a temperature the chicks are sure to show weakness. I believe that more deaths among little chicks result from indigestion than all other troubles

(Continued on page twenty-one.)

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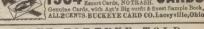
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combined, and I find that this trouble most always results from the chicks being weak to start with. Such chicks must be carefully fed and nursed or they will die or mature only as runts. For such chicks I think it is a mistake to such chicks I think it is a mistake to give hard or uncooked food for the first ten days. It stands to reason that they must have food that is soft and can be easily digested. Much of this so-called prepared or complete chick food made up of hard, broken grains, a good deal of which is composed of the lowest grades of wheat, corn, oats, millet, etc., hardly the corn, which grown chick to eat of wheat, corn, oats, millet, etc., hardly fit for a strong, half grown chick to eat, to say nothing of feeding it to a small weak chick. Somere commend the use of pepper in the food for indigestion or bowel complaint. One man tells me that he has checked the trouble by feeding mashed potatoes sprinkled with black pepper. I have fed cooked rice with pepper. I have fed cooked rice with fairly good results, using the water off from the rice for them to drink. Boiled sweet skim milk, I find aids in giving them strength. Take one part oat flake or meal, two parts rice, cook and season, using plenty of pepper, then mix with wheat bread that has been set in the oven for an hour or so and thoroughly dried, and browned a little so it can be crushed into a powder. I find this a very good food to start them on. Weak chicks must be fed carefully for three weeks and even after this they must not be neglected.

Poultry Keeping on a City Lot.

Making poultry pay on a city or village lot seems to be a matter of doubt with some, but those who have taken hold the work in a careful way find it to be a lucrative business. The writer got from a city resident the following information, showing what has been done in a small way with hens. This done in a small way with hens. This poultry-raising experiment, as it is called by some, was commenced one year ago last May with this party. To begin with the man impressed upon us the great necessity of keeping a book account of all matters connected with the poultry yard, which no doubt has had much to yard, which no doubt has had much to do with his success, as every item of expense is set down; price paid for fowls, cost of lumber, nails, wire netting, feed, labor and supplies, no matter how small, if they had a money value they were set down. The first year the flock consisted of fourteen hens which cost \$7.00 and one male bird, \$1.00; lumber, roofing, nails, labor, food, and supplies, \$24.00. The fowls were bought on the roth of Way, and the record for on the 10th of May, and the record for the year ended the 10th of the same month last year. Every night the exact number of eggs laid that day was set down, also every other item of interest concerning the fowls; this record served as a reference book for future use. The egg yield for any day, week, or month could be told at a glance, how many hens were laying, sitting, with chicks, etc. The number of eggs put under each hen, number unfertile, chicks dead in shell, hatched, number chicks given to each her, and feed given from start to to each hen, and feed given from start to finish. The reader will readily under-stand the value of a record of this kind for future use in the work. The kind of fowls kept were Barred Plymouth Rocks, and a fairly good lot. On or about June 15th five of the hens became broody, which left only nine to lay. Three of these setters, being extra large hens, were given fifteen eggs each, the other two thirteen each. From these fifty-two were given inteen eggs each, the other two thirteen each. From these fifty-two chicks were hatched, forty-nine of which were raised. The hens were all set within two or three days of each other so when they came off the entire lot of chicks were given to three hens to bring up, the other two being put back in the yard, and were soon laying again. The egg record for the year was as follows: first month, 266 eggs; second, 145; third, 187; fourth, 162; fifth, 45; sixth, 27; seventh, 78; eighth, 121; ninth, 143; tenth, 260; eleventh, 371; twelfth, 310; total, 2,115 eggs for the year. The pullets were hatched quite late, so but few of them laid before March. In summing up, from the increase from the fourteen hens for the first year he credited to them all the eggs for the year, although as

the number during the last three months.

The number of dozens of eggs laid was 184, which were sold at an average price

the record shows, the pullets helped swell

of twenty-five cents per dozen, bringing \$46.25. Then the forty-nine chickens which were valued at thirty cents each when at a marketable age, and size, would have brought \$14.70 if sold, but some of them were kept over, making the receipts foot up to \$60.95, leaving a profit of \$28.95. Then there was left the old stock of fifteen fowls, coops, etc.
The poultry house in which

these fowls were kept was made out of an old shed twelve by sixteen feet. The building was covered outside with heavy paper. Two sash were put in the front, which faced the east. Then for a run they had a yard twenty

by thirty, also a shady run of about the same size, whenthe young chicks were

Besides making a good profit on this lit-tle flock, he had fresh eggs and chickens right at hand, and a person who takes an interest in poultry will get enough pleasure caring for them to pay for all the trouble.

A Misplaced Criticism.

The great duke of Argyll was visiting his son, then governor-general of Canada, and met Longfellow in the American poet's ancient colonial mansion at Cambridge, Mass., says the Criterion. As they sat together on the veranda the duke persistently asked the names of the various birds he saw and heard singing in the poet's trees, as well as of the flowers and bushes growing in his extensive and beautiful garden. Longfellow was neither botanist nor ornithologist, and did not know. The great duke of Argyll was visiting ogist, and did not know.

ogist, and the not know.
"I was surprised to find your Longfellow such an ignorant person," said
the duke subsequently to an American
acquaintance. "Indeed! Pray on what acquaintance. "Indeed! Pray on what subject?" "Why, he could not tell me the names of the birds and flowers to be heard and seen in his own garden."

"'May I ask how many languages you speak?" the American asked. "Certainly, but one." "Mr. Longfellow," was the answer, "speaks six and translates freely from almost all the languages of Europe."

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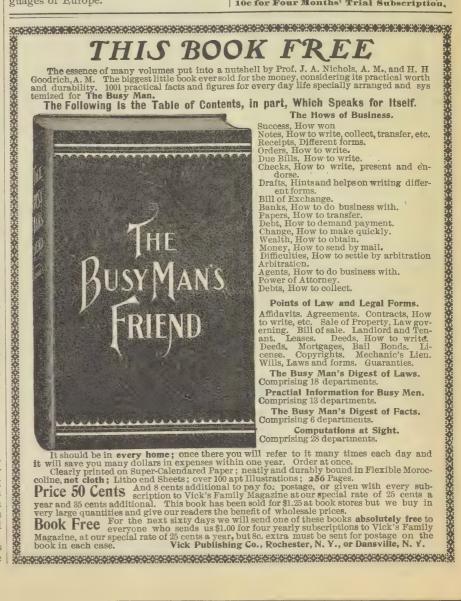
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information to thousands and will gladly send it to you if you will but write me to-day. As I have nothing whatever to sell,

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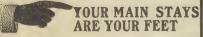
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oole & Poole Laboratory, 364. S. Wood St. Chicago.

Mother's Meeting.

(Continued from page ten)

flannel (for baby's "crossness" nothing but a natural result of prickly flannel and too tight or too stiff muslin bands) and about six inches wide and long, a very soft diaper of eighteen inch square size and with small inside square (an excellent size and material is that made of the "knit" fabric manufactured by the firm which makes those famous Gertrude Suits and incomparable bath aprons,) and either a long wrapper of flannel or cheesecloth— ala bath wrapper style—(or even heavy outing flannel, or for summer use or warm rooms a gauze merino texture,) and made as are "night merino texture,) and made as are "hight bags," ungored on sides and closed at foot for these 'bags' are truly comfortable and, made rightly in any fabric, neatly, and daintily finished, are charming, these are all in readiness and well warmed. Dressed thus, the infant is cozily warm and compact; but if pinning-blankets are added, as for very cold days or to protect other garments, heavy days or to protect other garments, heavy outing flannel is good enough and if cut on triangular or lap-over front methods (see March issue) with narrow flat bands to button onto a sleeveless waist, are the to button onto a sleeveless waist, are the perfection of usefulness. Too much hosiery and bootees is not advised by physical culturists, as heavy solid flesh needs air and sunlight for its development. On the contrary cold feet induce and increase colics. Common sense is as needed in dressing infants as are safety prins or shirts! pins or shirts!

Swaddling suits are made of large squares of eiderdown or canton flannel. The edges may be buttonhole stitched in Saxony or silk, in white or colors, and a fancy stitching follow the edgeline. A dainty outfit of extra downiness, simulating the softness the Germans secure adinty of the softness the Germans secure by feathers (for doubtless you all know how true blue Germans sleep on one feather tick with another over them?) was carried out in cheesecloth so fine it resembled silk or nun's veiling, and was lined with wool wadding, tied in dia-monds with bebe ribbon, feather-stitched on every edge, and finished with dainty crochetted edge. The inner suits or ''bags'' were similarly made and finished down front band, on collar and sleeves, with narrow lace, and a yoke effect was simulated by fancy stitches, french knots, and two small rosettes of bebe ribbon. The one adorned in pink attracted every

eye, though the blue was a close second.
When flannel is used an improvement consists of making an inner pad of cheesecloth well stuffed, and at head a trifle raised as for a pillow. (Never use trifle raised as for a pillow. (Never use feather pillows nor any large pillows for tiny infants). Dressed in shirt, band, diapers, (pinning blanket on waist if desired) comfort bag, and cap, lay the infant on this little pad, which lies across swaddling suit, one corner of same being turned over, told the side pieces over and tuck about infant, bringing up lower end and pinning with safety pin. Now wind a wide, tightly crocheted band about two yards long (or less; one and one-half answers) and seven inches wide around entire outfit, thus making the around entire outfit, thus making the baby into a bundle at once snug yet loose, and compact yet dainty enough. Unless the inner pads are used and a flan-nel swaddling outfit is used, a lap pillow is a dainty and practical article. The "pillow" is stuffed with hair and cotton. It has a canton flannel inner case to protect from accidental wetting, and an out-ter case of varied material. One I have ter case of varied material. One I have admired was made of silkoline with a graceful pattern of roses and pansies, the goods costing eighteen cents per yard and very fine; the quantity required was under two and one-half yards and provided a wide ruffle headed by a narrow one all around. The top edge was buttoned neatly snug under the ruffle. Infants carried on lap pillows are saved the jar of rough handling, a very strong point. The revival of favor given swaddling

suits is due to their good-sense construc-tion. The outer bands can be quite ortion. The outer bands can be quite or-namental, using a stripe or scallop of dainty color with white. Fasten with a safety pin or long gold pin, or have a ribbon bow at joining place. Nothing can excel swaddling suits for babies un-less the arrival be in mid-summer when it may at once use regular Gertrude or other as sensible style of dressing babies other as sensible style of dressing babies

minus bands. Otherwise 'tis best to keep cold weather babies in swaddling suits for at least two months.

for at least two months.

Note.—It will be considered a special favor and assistance if any one who has old "Housekeeper's Weekly's" or can secure them will write me. This bright paper was published twelve years ago in Philadelphia. Readers of its small pages will recollect "Thomas" the Office cat, Louise Betts, its able assistant editor, and Henry Ferris the editor. As many bound their papers with the Rinder furbound their papers with the Binder furnished by "The Weeklies." It should be possible to find whole or parts of a year's subscription of someone's; for such a very liberal sum or exchanges will be given. Address Victoria Wellman.

February.

Will winter never be over? Will the dark days never go? Must the buttercup and the clover Be always hid under the snow?

Ah, lend me your little ear, love! Hark, 'tis a beautiful thing; The weariest month of the year, love, Is shortest and nearest the spring. Mrs. A. D. T. Whitney.

A Telling Criticism.

To the late Herbert Spencer the minds of lunatics had an odd fascination. He was a frequent visitor to a number of asylums, and was often impressed with the witticisms of lunatics.

Sometimes he would tell of the criticism a lunatic woman made on a sermon that was preached in her asylum. This criticism was brief, but it was telling.

"To think," said the woman, pointing toward the clergyman, "to think of him out and me in."

A Fine Kidney Remedy.

Mr. A. S. Hitchcock, East Hampton. Conn. (The Clothier.) says if any sufferer from Kidney and Bladder Disease will write him, he will direct them to the perfect home cure he used. He makes no charge whatever for the favor.

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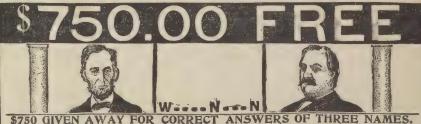
markable cure of this lady and at once profit by it by doing as she did and writing the discoverer for a free test treatment and book. Mrs. W. J. Kelly of Loda, Ill., is a lady 71 years old. She has lived in Loda 39 years, so what she says can be relied upon. At one time she suffered from rheumatism so badly that she was almost helpiess and though she tried many things she got no better in life but to be an invalid, she wrote Dr. Edwin Turnock, a French-American physician and scientist who has discovered a genuine cure for rheumatism. Fin ally, when she thought there was nothing more for her in life but to be an invalid, she wrote Dr. Edwin Turnock, a French-American physician and scientist who has discovered a genuine cure for rheumatism and kidney and bladder diseases. She took his famous treatment and in a short time was permanently cured, and she is today, in her 71st year, as Joyous and healthy as any man or woman half her age, with not a vestige of uric acid poison in her body.

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mes of two large cities in the United is left blank for a third Ex-President, one located in Nebraska and one in Unio. The center space is left basis for the Later and the name represents a prominent city, spelled in ten letters, and the only city in the U. S. the people are a allowed to vote. If you can GIVE THE NAMES OF THE THREE CITTES, mail them to with your name and address plainly written. If they are correct, YOU WILL RECEIVE a letter frus, which may entitle you to the whole or part of the \$750.00, for the correct solution of above names a sew minutes of your time. You are not called upon for one cent of your money to be a participant in AWARD OF \$750.00. WE DO NOT WANT YOUR MONEY. Should more than one have creet answer, \$750.00 will be paid just the same pro rats. We advertise ourselves in this liberal manner interest you, and we will surely give away \$750.00 besides valuable presents, as there are no blanks. Se your name and answer at once. A. LESLIE, Deak 261

For the Children.

(Continued from Page eight.)

and in the midst of that little heap of soil lay a bright, glittering object. Beppo's hiding place was a secret no longer. He had buried Netta's birthday dollars in the pot of Callas.

I guess this ought to be a warning to us never to meddle with other's things or to take things out of father's desk without permission," murmured Jesse, with most unusual thoughtfulness, as he polished the recovered coins till they shone with new brightness, while Bessie was bringing something of its lost neatness back to the disordered room, Beppo chattering away, pulling her hair ribbon, which he had found on the floor, to shreds.

"It seems to me a warning too, to be kind to animals!" mused Bessie; "No matter how you had beaten poor Beppo, he could not have told where he hid Netta's money. But in trying to save him, I ran against the Calla, and out the dirt and dollars came, rolling together!"

Keep An Account of Expenses.

Women have invaded almost all walks of life and are employed in almost every capacity, and yet, though engaged in so many kinds of business, how few apply business methods to their own affairs. Very few girls keep an account of their expenditures. It is a very simple thing to keep a regular account of all money received and paid out, and it is a good training for any girl. The account should be balanced every week, for then one knows just how much she has on hand and can plan better for needed expenditures. If a girl puts down faithfully every day all money expended, she will in a short time realize how pennies foolishly spent soon amount to dollars, and this, of itself, is a valuble lesson in economy. And then, money has such a faculty for getting away from a person. That which has taken days and weeks to earn can be spent in such a few minutes, that unless one keeps an account she can hardly realize that she has expended it, and thinks she must have lost it or that the wrong change has been given her. But the account book tells the story and furnishes another strong argument in its favor. If a girls will only try it a few weeks she is quite sure to find that it pays to keep accounts. F. B.

Literal.

Mistress-Dear me, Mary! Have you

broken another dish?
Maid—T'want no fault of mine, mum;
it was accordin' to orders.

Mistress—According to orders! What do you mean?

Maid—T'other day you told me when the butcher came to drop everything and attend to him. It happen when he came yesterday. I had one of them big yesterday. I had one of them big chiny dishes in my hand.—Boston



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Talks About Flowers.

(Continued from page four.)

or more of big palms, etc., will probably have to be managed collectively instead

Red spiders cannot flourish where the air is moist, and since these little pests are among the worst that a flower grower has to deal with, a plenteous supply of moisture should be provided. Not only should the air be kept moist, but in order to swamp the enemy, the foliage should also be drenched. A high temperature and a dry atmosphere are conducive to red spiders. Although the thermometer in most rooms will register seventy degrees Farenheit during the day, a temperature five degrees lower will suit palms, primroses, cinerarias, and bulbs much better. Of course, if all other conditions are right, the plants will do well in a warm air.

February is the month when we generally have our coldest weather, and even in our rooms that are supposed to be frost proof, extra precaution is needed on the worst nights. Sometimes, a number of newspapers, pinned securely behind the plants will keep them from freezing. Then again, they may have to be carried from the window, placed on a table in a safer part of the room and thoroughly covered. It is a very good plan, especially where the fire is apt to go out, to keep a large lamp or oil heater burning near the plants all night. Be vigilant during the coldest weather and get your reward later.

Fresh air is quite essential. The plants require it as well as people. But it should not come in direct contact with the foliage. Before striking the plants allow it to mix gradually with the air in the room. Withered blossoms and dead or dying foliage should be removed. If the window garden is kept neat and tidy, it will appear attractive even without blossoms. But otherwise it will be an eyesore instead of a source of delight. Stir the soil now and then using a table fork. A number of matches, placed round the edge of a flower pot will destroy the tiny white worms that are sometimes found in the soil. Crushed tobacco leaves, laid round the base of a plant, are also effective.

Here is some advice for the person that planted bulbs, last fall for the first time, and for other flower growers that have tried but failed. Do not put your hyacinths, etc., in the window until they are ready to go there. They are very seldom ready, according to my notion, until the buds have grown out of the neck of the bulbs, or nearly so. At this stage, the crisp, yellow leaves will be two inches high, more or less. If given direct light and warmth previous to this time, the blossoms will try to unfold before half of their number have grown from the bulb. And instead of the glorious hyacinth that might have been, a poor, stunted little flower will be the result.

The proper course to pursue is this: As soon as each dish of bulbs is brought from the dark room where it has been developing, put it in a moderately warm, light cupboard, and leave alone except for an occasional watering, until growth becomes well advanced. As soon as all of the buds are in plain view, it is safe to put the bulbs in the window. Given direct light and warmth at this stage, they can hardly fail to be anything but satisfactory. If you make a mistake however-as the uninitiated sometimes do -and find a hyacinh coming into bloom

while half of the buds are vet in the bulb, make a small funnel out of a piece of writing paper, cut it off at proper length, and slip it down over the plant. Give a cooler, darker position and hope

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ONE-HALF YARD TALL

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Petunias.

(Continued from page three.)

The plant was broken in taking it home, so I cut it back, and it threw up many new stems; these I thinned and pinched back. In the spring I rooted enough slips to make a large bed. From the plants growing outdoors I took slips to raise plants for winter blooming. In the meantime the old plant had been blooming in the house. It was full of flowers in the fall, and I concluded to keep it untill it quit bllooming. Toward spring I again took slips from it for bedding, and as the plant had outgrown my window I turned it out into the garden, giving it considerable space for it was a large plant. It was in a bed that had been prepared for roses and only narrow path separated the petunia bed from a bed of tear oses. At first the poor old petunia lost all its leaves and looked so bad I felt inclined to dig it up, and wished it had been thrown on the rubbish heap. But before the season was over it was the most attractive plant in my garden. And when I showed visitors my tea roses, they always said before we reached the bed of roses." "The colored ones were pretty but the white one was prettiest of all." And I would have to explain that the white one was a double petunia. When winter came I regretted that there was not room in my window for the beautiful snowdrift of petuinas. Susan Tucker.

Good Deeds.

Be careful to go strewing in and out Thy way with good deeds, lest it come about

That when thou shalt depart

No low, lamenting tongue be found to sav

The world is poorer since thou went'st away;

But make so fair and sweet

Thy house of clay, some dusk shall spread about

When death unlocks the door and lets thee

Alice Carv

A Floral Valentine.

A friend of mine has been thinking that it would be a good idea to convert flowers and plants into beautiful souvenirs of Saint Valentine, Poor old fellow! When his intentions are so good, it really seems a shame that they should ever find expression through such flimsy mediums as tinsel and fancy paper; or, worse yet, the atrocious things misnamed "comic" valentines.

If a young gentleman wishes to send a fine token of good will to a lady, he might go to a florist and select a handsome bouquet, attach his card in neat lettering, and give her much greater pleasure than by means of a lot of meaningless or silly verses, done up in tinselpaper, or satin. Better yet, he might buy a thrifty plant covered with lovely blossoms and send it with his compliments, thus furnishing her with a sweet memento that will turn her thoughts towards him whenever her eyes rest upon it. And how true it is that we do not use flowers for half of the places where they would be in good staste, or where they would be a delightful solace. For the lover of beauty there is a charm about flowers that nothing else has. Their exquisite form and hues are the

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In presenting flowers, loose clusters of single kinds of blossoms, roses, lilies of the valley, daffodils or white lilacs are very appropriate. Set pieces in the form of horseshoes, hearts or baskets of fancy shapes are filled with smaller blossoms and tied with satin ribbons of harmonizing colors. G, B, G,

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Babies and Blossoms.

(Continued from page seven)

A visitor once brought her boy, about three years old, and almost his first act was to seize the bouquets with which my rooms were brightened; he upset three, flinging the flowers about with both hands, the water of course, sopping the carpets. His mother held him, yelling at the top of his voice, while I repaired damages and put the remaining flowers out of his his reach. She laughed saying, "That was just like Willie, he was so mischievous that I cannot have a flower on the place."

She had never taught him that they were to be loved and cared for instead of being destroyed.

It is not difficult to develop the love of nature in children. I say develop, for according to my experience children already possess the love for, and interest in, plants, flowers, birds and animals. But it needs development. Begin as soon as you begin anything with them, talking brightly and lovingly of the birds and flowers as of things they are to love and protect.

Have them help you rake and clean up the yard in spring, and help keep it clean and neat. Little tots just beginning to toddle are proud to help, and gather up such bits as their wee hands can grasp to add to the refuse pile for a bon-fire.

Let them help dig and plant; give each one a little spot for its very own-you may have to do much of the work for them but their pride in possession, and the lessons they will learn of careful helpfulness, the love of order and beauty that will grow in their small hearts, and the enjoyment it all adds to a home, will more than repay you.

How to Cook Dried Fruits.

Valuable directions for cooking California cured fruits have been prepared by a large fruit-packing company, and may be summarized as follows: Wash thoroughly several times in luke warm water. Put the rinsed fruit in a covered enamelled saucepan, cover with cold water, and let stand twelve hours. Pour into another saucepan this water, saturated with fruit juice, add sugar according to taste (with prunes little or none at all) boil for fifteen or twenty minutes to a rich fruit syrup, and pour it boiling hot over the soaked fruit. Then let the fruit simmer for fifteen to thirty minutes, though prunes should simmer about two hours. Let the fruit cool gradually. Lemon or orange peel improves the flavor. Prepared this way dried fruits recover their plumpness, look like fresh fruit, and are delicious. The syrup should be rich and clear. Fruits cooked this way can be used for pies and puddings also. Never cook dried fruit without soaking it thoroughly and never boil

Almost Too Good To Be True.

It seems at first glance as though this old saying

It seems at first glance as though this old saying were particularly applicable to the offer made in columns of this paper by the "1900" Washer Co., of Binghamton, N. Y., to send any Housekeeper on request their Family Washer for 30 days' trial paying the freight and paying also the expense of returning it at the end of that time if not found entirely satisfactory.

As a matter of fact investigation proves that this concern considers the merits of the Washer so remarkable that they do not think it possible for a woman to appreciate its value without a thorough trial; on request of any housekeeper, they, therefore, put it in her house for 30 days and if actual experience does not induce her to buy, the experiment has cost her nothing as the "1900" Washer Co., pay the return charges.

Surely a remarkable instance of how far a progressive manufacturer will go to convince the public of the value of his product when he himself is convinced.

A Human Life Line

If all the people who have been cured by Vernal Palmettona (formerly known as Vernal Saw Palmetto Berry Wine) were lined up in single file, two feet apart, the line beginning at Buffalo, would extend for miles and miles, far out towards the west. In this line would be found men, women and children, erpresenting every vocation in life. Most of them were in bad shape physically when they began to take Vernal Palmettona. Some of them owe their very lives to it. If you were to talk to them, they would give full credit to this great tonic laxative remedy. Some of them went way on up into middle life, some of them even to old age, before they began taking our cure.

"If I had only taken Vernal Palmettona sooner," is the regret of many who realize that they might have been saved years of suffering. Do not let this be your experience. Indigestion, constipation, dyspepsia and all other diseases of the stomach, liver, kidneys and bowels are relieved quickly and eventually cured permanently by Vernal Palmettona. Only one dose a day does the work. is done gently, yet thoroughly. This is in direct contrast to harsh purgatives and cathartics which are positively harmful. Many people are skeptical about a medicine with which they are unfamiliar. Maybe you are one of them. We don't blame you. It is common sense. We plainly print the guaranteed formula on every package of our remedy. Better still, we will send you postpaid a free sample. Try before you buy. Address, Vernal Remedy Co., 407 Seneca Building, Buffalo, N. Y. Sold at all druggists.

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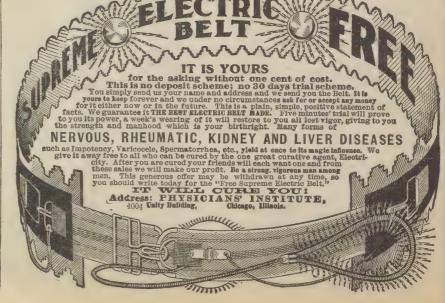
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J. Bolgiano & Son, Light and Lombard

Sts., Baltimore, Md.
Price List of Hardy Herbaceous
Perennials and Alpine Plants, Blue Hill Nurseries, South Braintree, Mass., Julius Heurlin.

Burpee's Farm Annual, 1904.

Burpee & Co., Philadelphia, Pa.
Childs' Catalogue, 1904. John Lewis
Childs, Floral Park, N Y.
Cole's Garden Annual, 1904. Pella,

Illustrated Catalogue, 1904. A. T.

Cook, Hyde Park, N. Y.
Strawberry Plants and Gladiolus Bulbs,
1904, M. Crawford Company, Cuyahoga
Falls, Ohio.

Cottage Garden Nurseries, Queens, L. I., N. Y. New Guide to Rose Culture, 1904.

I., N. Y.
New Guide to Rose Culture, 1904.
Aingee & Conrad Co., West Grove, Pa.
Dreer's Garden Book, 1904. Henry
D. Dreer, Philadelphia, Pa.
Seeds, 1904. Wm. Elliott & Sons, 54
Dey St., New York, N. Y.
Catalogue, 1904. J. A. Everitt, Seedsman, Indianapolis, Ind.
Farquhar's Catalogue, Spring, 1904.

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St., Boston, Mass.
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New York, N. Y.
Floral Treasures, 1904. The Good & Reese Co., Springfield, Ohio.
Gem Incubators and Brooders. Gem Incubator Co., Dayton, Ohio.
Catalogue, 1904. Iowa Seed Company, Des Moines, Iowa.
Iowa Incubator Co., Des Moines, Iowa.
Garden and Farm Manual, Johnson & Stokes, 217 Market St., Philadelphia, Pa.
Hardy American Rhododendrons.
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M. McCullough's Sons, 316 Walnut St., Cincinnati, Ohio.

Maule Seed Book for 1904. Wm. Henry

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Hardy Trees & Plants, Thomas Meehan & Sons, Germantown, Philadelphia, Pa. Strawberry Plants, 1904, B. F. Messick & Son, Allen, Md.
Michell's Seeds, Plants, Bulbs, etc. Henry F. Michell, 1018 Market St., Philadelphia, Pa.
Mill's Seed Catalogue, 1904. F. B. Mills, Rose Hill, N.Y.
Olds 1904. L. L. Olds Seed Co., Clinton, Wis.

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Ormas Incubators and Brooders, L. A. Banta, Ligonier, Ind.
The Reading Nursery, 116 High St.,

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Catalogue of Plants, Seeds, etc., John
A. Salzer Seed Company, La Crosse, Wis.
Catalogue of Seeds, Bulbs, and Plants,
1904. Schlegel & Fottler Co., 26 S.

Market St., Boston, Mass Seeds, Plants, etc., Spring, 1904. The Storrs & Harrison Co., Painesville,

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Templin's Ideal Seeds, Plants, Bulbs, etc., 1904, L. Templin & Sons, Calla,

Thorburn's Seeds, 1904. J. M. Thorburn & Co., 36 Cortland St., New York,

N. Y. Vaughn's Garden Seeds, 1904. Vaughn's Seed Store, 84 Randolph St.,

Chicago, Ill.
Vick's Floral Guide, 1094. James
Vick's Sons, Rochester, N. Y.
High-Grade Aster Seed Circular, 1904.

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THE WIZARD OF PARIS.

Strange Being Who Throws Others Under His Spell by a Mere Glance of the Eye.



This is a picture of Svengali, the great hypnotist of Paris, who hypnotized Trilby, a simple country girl, and made of her the greatest singer in the world and the sensation of Paris. According to the story, the photograph alone of this weird-looking gentleman was sufficient to throw his beautiful subject into the hypnotic trance. See how long you can look his picture full in the eye without feeling a strange sensation creeping over you. This simple test will give you an idea of the wonderful fascination of the hypnotic eye. Hypnotism is the most wonderful, mysterious and powerful force in all the world. But it is not at all necessary to look like Svengali in order to exert this strange and magic power over others. Anybody who can read and write can become a hypnotist and accomplish all that Svengali ever did, and more. You can now master this fascinating science at your own home. By a few hours' study you can learn all about the secrets, methods, uses and wonders of the hypnotic trance. You can surprise and mystify all your friends by placing anyone you wish under this weird and magic spell, and compel them to see, think, feel and act precisely as you wish. You can sway the minds of others, perform the most wonderful feats and create fun and amusement for hours at a time. You can do a thousand amazing things that other people can not do, and make yourself famous in a week's time. If you want to make money you can do so by giving entertainments, curing diseases, or teaching the art to others. These are three sure and easy ways to win a fortune. Why be poor? Why work for others when you can master this money-making profession so easily? Investigate now. It costs nothing to find out all about it. Prof. Harraden, the world-renowned Hypnotist, has issued a large and elegant FREE BOOK, entitled, "A Key to the Mysteries of Hypnotism," and anybody can get a copy of it without one cent of cost, mereiy for the asking. Simply send for it by letter or postal, and it is the most beautiful, interesting and valuable book eve

PROF. L. A. HARRADEN, Dept. 5,

"The Old Furniture Book—By N. Hudson Moore. This is a companion to "The Old China Book" by our valued Hudson Moore. This is a companion to "The Old China Book" by our valued contributor, Mrs. Moore, noticed in our January number, and is written in the same entertaining way. More than one hundred full page half-tones of pieces of antique furniture, many of them of great historic interest, help to make a very beautiful book. Coming at a time when the interest in "antiques" is being so generally revived, this work should meet a cordial welcome, especially from all who are so fortunate as to own any specimens of old furniture. Incidentally the book presents many interesting details of the lives of our forefathers, as well as pictures of their possessions. Frederick A. Stokes Company, Publishers, New York. Price \$2.00 net. "How to Make a Flower Garden." Of all the books on gardening which have been published up to the present time, this latest contribution is certainly the most beautiful, and as it was written by experts and covers all branches of the publiced in former.

Book Notices

the most beautiful, and as it was written by experts and covers all branches of the subject, it is full of practical information. One hundred beautiful illustrations adorn the pages. An appendix giving "Flowers for Special Purposes," and another on "How to Grow Flowers," are specially valuable features. The very low price of the book should place it in the hands of every lover of flowers. Doubleday, Page & Co., New York. Price \$1.60 net.
"Missouri Botanical Garden." The Fourteenth Annual Report of this noted garden, at St. Louis, Mo., gives details

garden, at St. Louis, Mo., gives details of the work of 1903. An important revision of the genus Lonicera entitled, "Synopsis of the genus Lonicera, by Alfred Rehder, illustrated by twenty full

Alfred Rehder, illustrated by twenty full page plates, occupies the greater part of the volume.

"The Nineteenth Annual Report of the Bureau of Animal Industry, Department of Argiculture, is filled with articles of great value and interest to all owners of horses, cattle, sheep, etc. Much space is devoted to articles treating of various diseases of animals, the foot and mouth disease receiving particular attention.

Paste the word "Wait" in your hat, and have it for your motto. All things finally pass. Even your trouble will end -if you will let it.

Ground Rock As A Medicine.

Ground Rock As A Medicine.

The rich people of the cities go to the "springs" to be cured of various ailments. They take hot and cold baths in the Mineral water and drinkit, gallons of it, and go home relieved, if not cured. Most people cannot afford to do this and necessarily suffer and bear it. The mineral forming such a large part of the water comes from the mineral ore at the bottom of the spring. Prof. Theo. Noel, a geologist, now living in Chicago, discovered a mine of this ore many years ago while prospecting in the southwest and is now grinding and selling it under the name of Vitæ-Ore and as such the medicine has become well known to the readers of this paper.

S

are, perhaps, arm in arm with the monster and do not know your peril!

If you have the least trouble with your heart, death is ever by your side watching—waiting, till, by some little over exertion, you give the chance to instantly strike out your life!

DEATH FROM HEART FAILURE COMES WITHOUT A SECOND'S WARNING! The rapid increase of Heart Disease is awful—appalling. Six people in every ten have some trouble with their heart. Most of them don't know it, and are doctoring the stomach, kidneys, or female organs when these troubles are really only SYMPTOMS caused by the wrong heart, which controls every other organ of the body. Nine cases in ten the NERVES are affected, too—the one disease brings on the other. It is useless to treat the heart alone. The nerves also must be restored.

If you have never examined your heart and nerves, do so now. If you already know that they are diseased and weak—even if the trouble is deep-seated, of years' standing, and has an awful, almost deadly hold, and everything you've tried has falled—don't give up, for help is here!

If you need this help, write us and we will send you by mail, free and postpaid, without any conditions, without restrictions, and without cost,

OF DR. FULLER'S HEART & NERVE TABLETS

of DR. FULLER'S HEART & NERVE TABLETS
and illustrated book which tells you all about these diseases and just how to take the tablets and be well. Both are FREE. This offer is to prove to you what the tablets will do. We already know, but you do not. We have tested them in over forty thousand cases. They failed, on an average, once in each 204 trials. In almost every failure was some other incurable trouble which made a cure impossible. Can you wonder at our faith? Yours may be one of the few incurable cases—we do not yet know—but this test will tell—and the test costs YOU nothing. The risk—the cost—is ours. For more than a year we have spent the whole receipts of our great business to tell sick and discouraged people of our remedy—to make them this offer. The very fairness of the thing shows our confidence. If it were a common remedy, or if it failed often, we could not do this, for our success depends upon the good it does—the cures it makes. One reason why the Tablets cure such hopeless cases is because they not only strengthen and regulate the heart, but also revitalize and restore every nerve and nerve centre in the body.

YOU CANNOT MISTAKE THESE SURE SYMPTONS. Go over them carefully. Have you pain, tenderness, or numbness around the heart? In left side? arm, or shoulder blade? palpitation? fluttering? skipping beats? short breath? panting from going up stairs? choking? numb, faint, sinking, deathly spells? dizziness? nightmare? asthma? swelling legs? Are you NERVOUS? Irritable? easily tirad out? trightened? or excited? Do you have creeping sensations? hot flashes? hysterics? melancholy? dread? loss of memory? Are you weak and run down?

No case has all, some of the worst only a few. If, therefore, you have one or two, your heart and nerves are surely wrong. Delay means danger—sudden death! Can you refuse help—yes, life—when offered you like this? Address plainly,

THE HEART CURE CO. 127 MASONIC BUILDING, HALLOWELL, MAINE.

A. C. Howland, M. D., one of New York's most noted physicians, says: "Since 1899 I have prescribed your Tablets in a great many cases of Heart and Nerve diseases, and as yet without a single failure. They are a very wonderful remedy."



Every Woman about the wonderful MARVEL Whirling Spray

SEND 10c for a year's subscription to our large monthly. Anybody's Magazine, Peekskill, N. Y.

TAPE-WORN EXPELLED WITH HEAD. GUABANTRED PROOFER FREE, BYRON FIELD & CO. 182 STATS STRE_T. CBICAGO, ILL

Largest, brightest and finest illustrated magazine in the world for 10c a year. (Special after.) Stories of western life, sketches and fine engraving of grand scenery, mountains and famous gold mines, ranches, etc. Published by an old and strong publishing house. Send at once. 10c a year postpaid anywhere in the U.S., Canada and Mexico. 6 yrs. 50c., 12 yrs. \$1. Or, clubs of 6 names 50c., 12 for \$1. Send us a club. Money back if not delighted. Stamps taken. Cut This Out. Send today.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN MAGAZINE, Denver, Colo.

EYE DISEASES CURED

WITHOUT SURGERY, PAIN OR RISK.

SCIENCE OF CURING BLINDNESS AND THE MANY EYE DISEASES THAT AFFLICT MANKIND, PERFECTED BY DR. P. C. MADISON, OF CHICAGO, AMERICA'S MASTER OCULIST.

BY THE MADISON ABSORPTION METHOD

Ministers, Merchants, Lawyers, Bankers, Railroad Officials, Physicians, Teachers, Editors—Men and Women Prominent in Every Walk of Life are Cured Without Knife or Pain, and Their Endorsements Tell of Their Satisfaction.

YOU CAN BE CURED AT YOUR OWN HOME

Dr. Madison and His Treatment are Endorsed by the Publishers of Vick's Family Magazine.

H. W. Conry, D. D., well-known Missionary Worker of Congregational Church, cured of Cataracts, Optic Nerve Paralysis and Retinal Hemorrhage, writing from Maize, Kan., says: "I shall publicly thank you before my congregation, and shall recommend you to the church at large as an oculist of exceptional skill."

O. W. F. Snyder, M. D., of Chicago, the Famous Obesity Specialist, says: "Dr. Madison cured Miss Blanche Day, who has been my book-keeper for years, of cross eyes (Strabismus) and I regard the results of his treatment as miraculous, as he did not use the knife. He has solved the problem of bloodless and painless cure of cross eyes,"

Her Sight Restored.—Miss Josie O'Meara, of Grand Ridge, Ill., says: "In 1895 I was stricken with fever and in a single night lost the use of my eyes, seeing by sound and touch entirely. Subsequently adhesions formed in my eyes, firmly binding the lids to the eyeball so that I was entirely blind. Dr. Madison restored my sight and with a humble heart I ask the Omnipotent Father to bless and direct him."

Mr. E. E. Daw, General Yard Master C. B. & Q. R. R. Chicago, who was blind from Ulceration of the Cornea, was cured by the Madison Absorption Method, after his family physician gave up the case.

Your Treatment is as much ahead of the old methods as an electric light is ahead of a tallow dip. I am exceedingly glad that I put myself under your treatment. I shall take pleasure in recommending you to any one who has eye troubles of any kind.

Yours very sincerely.

J. W. LILLY, Chicago, Ill.

Ticket Agent, Ill. Cent. R. R.

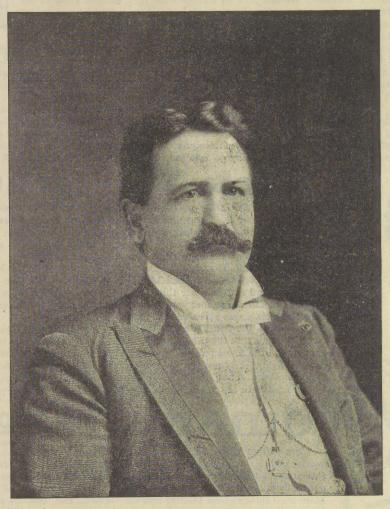
Andrew Reiner, Prominent Real Estate Dealer of Blue Island, Ill., was cured of Cataracts by Dr. Madison's Absorption Method in three months.

Saved Baby from Life of Blindness.

316 N. Sycamore St.,
So. Bend, Ind., Aug. 17, 1903.

Dear Doctor Madison—I will now take the pleasure in writing to tell you that our little daughter, Claribel, can see as good as she ever could, and you dear Doctor Madison, are the one who brought back her sight after other doctors discouraged us and told us our baby would be blind forever. You will certainly get all the credit for this and we will always praise you, for you know your business. She was two years old last month and just see the torture and pain the little thing had endured, and she might have been saved this had we brought her to you before. Where would she have been now if we had not got relief for her from you? fore. Where would she have been now if we not got relief for her from you?

MR. AND MRS. LOUIS CHANSE.



P. CHESTER MADISON, M. D.,

America's Master Oculist, (Copyrighted.)

The pages of this paper could be filled with statements of my cured patients, and yet the half would not be told. The files of my office are full of testimonial letters. My cured patients are to be found in almost every city and town, and in all sections of this great country. Evidences of the success and supremacy of my treatment are accumulating every day. The day of experiments in my specialty is passed. I know what I can do, and am perfectly able to fulfill every promise I make.

Progressive Myopia Conquered—I was now desperate and perfectly hopeless, but on April 17 I went to Dr. Madison. His examination was careful and thorough and by histreatment has restored my sight to me. Things I have never seen before I can now see perfectly. I could not gauge distance either with hands or feet, and was always fearful of a misstep which would cause my death.

MRS. A. E. KAUFMAN, 6711 Union Ave.

Mrs. Wm. J. Conkling, Mother of Postmaster at Springfield, Ill., says: "Prominent oculists told me I had Cataracts and must wait until they matured and then have them removed by operation with the knife. After using the Madison Absorption Method at my home for only five months, the Cataracts were removed entirely, without any operation, pain or inconvenience. I consider his treatment a perfect success."

M. J. Bryan, General Agent Wisconsin Central Railroad, Duluth, Minn., says: "If I had \$10,000 you could have one-half of it for what you have done for my eyes."

Nearly Lost Sight from Accident

Nearly Lost Sight from Accident
Chicago, Ill., Sept. 4, 1903.
P. C. Madison, M. D., City.
Dear Sir;—Two years ago my son Norman was injured in the eye by being hit by a ball. It split the tissue of the eye and got very bad in a short time. We were afraid he would lose the eye, but after being under your care and treatment for a few weeks, I am pleased to say that it came out all right and is as good as ever. We are more than pleased to recommend your work; and if ever an opportunity or an accident befalls any of my family, you can rest assured, we will look you up. He is, all right and his eye does not bother him at all.
Very truly yours,
C. R. LOTT,
Van Buren & Loomis Sts.,

Jeffersonville, Ind., Oct., 21, 1903.
You straightened my eye in less than two minutes and you used no knife or glasses. The treatment caused me no pain whatever and the eye is now perfectly straight. I had been cross-eyed all my life and am now 42 years old. I had consulted a doctor before this and he discouraged my having any treatment for it because I was so advanced in age. I really did not believe that at my age the eye could be straightened, but I realize now that I was mistaken in this. No doubt thousands of others think as I did, and I want all cross-eyed people to know of my cure so that they will come to you no matter if they have been unsuccessfully treated before or think they are too old to be cured. Your treatment is simply marvelous, and I hope you will be able to continue your great work.

Very gratefully yours,

LENA HIRSCHBUHL.

Wife of Attorney for State Bank Feared Insanity.

Insanity.

Chicago, Sept. 1, 1903.

I suffered for months from a terrible pain at the base of my brain, presumably from my eyes, a pain so intense that I feared insanity. A number of oculists treated me, but gave no relief, and one frankly admitted he could do nothing for me. A week's treatment by you relieved me of the pain, and to-day I see better than I have for years.

MRS, S. M. FEGTLEY, 17 Elaine Place.

ABSORPTION METHOD MADISON

is my own discovery by which I cure all the above diseases and defects of vision. Granulated Lids, Optic Nerve Diseases, Cataracts, Spots, Scars and all other eye diseases or causes of blindness, without knife, pain, risk or inconvenience, and restore the eye to its normal function. I want to hear from those who have been disappointed by repeated failures of other methods.

I STRAIGHTEN CROSS-EYES. No knife, pain, or risk, and I restore lost vision by a method known and used only by me. Successful in upwards of 10,000 cases. Not one failure. MY HOME TREATMENT is designed for those who can not come to my office. It is perfectly harmless and so perfected that you can cure yourself at home. It has been successful in

cases not benefited by other treatments. CORRESPONDENCE.—If it is not convenient to call, or if you live outside of Chicago, write me a full description of your case as you understand it, and I will freely answer any questions you may wish to ask. I make no charge for consultation and examination. I have no branch office or agents. My treatment may be imitated, but not equaled. It is not known or used by any one but me.

MY LATEST BOOK.—"Diseases of the Eye; Their Cure Without Surgery," is FREE. It tells you what you want to know, and gives testimonials of other prominent people whom I have cured of eye diseases and defects, and other causes of blindness. Letters in any language promptly answered.

Positively no medicines sent, and no charges made until you begin treatment. I will not bother you with C. O. D. packages. You will receive my personal attention.

P. C. MADISON, M. D., Suite 252, 80 Dearborn St., CHICAGO.

The publishers of this paper have personally investigated Dr. Madison's treatment and statements and heartily endorse him to the readers .- Vick Publishing Co., C. E. Gardner, Treas.

